Kei Toume

DELCOURT

SING "YESTERDAY" FOR ME

1

KEI TOUME

SING "YESTERDAY" FOR ME

1

À la fin de ses études universitaires, Uozumi a trouvé un job dans une supérette. Un jour, Haru, une jeune fille qui a pour habitude de se promener avec un corbeau, fait soudain son apparition... Le cœur à «49% contre, mais 51% pour...», l'esprit un peu tordu, mais pourtant honnêtes, tous deux sont comme les fleurs de cerisier qui tombent en voltigeant, se balançant doucement...

AKATA

9 782847 891171

SING
"YESTERDAY"
FOR ME
VOL. 1

#MANGAREADERS@IRC IRCHIGHWAY.NET

THE ONE WHO WANTS TO LIVE DIFFERENTLY TO SOCIETY, MUST ALSO MAKE THE EFFORT TO PUT HIMSELF INTO QUESTION

SCENE 1 3
SCENE 2 31
SCENE 3 55
SCENE 4 75

WHAT IS LOVE ?

SCENE 1 107
SCENE 2 133
SCENE 3 161
SCENE 4 183
SCENE 5 202

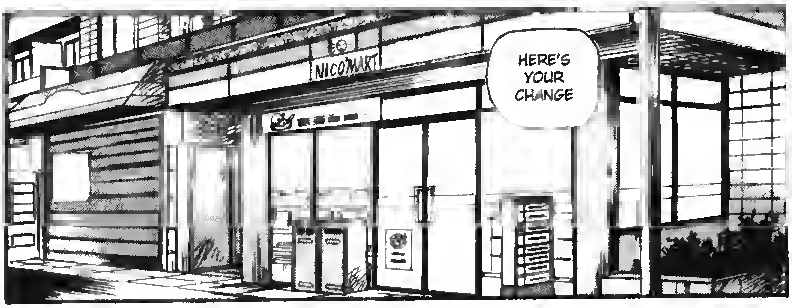
SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: DITA
EDITOR: EXIT MUSIC
PROOFER: MISAO CHAN

THE ONE WHO WANTS TO LIVE DIFFERENTLY TO SOCIETY, MUST ALSO MAKE THE EFFORT TO PUT HIMSELF INTO QUESTION
-SCENE 1-

FROU
HMM!
CLIC
9
8 7
DRIIIING
12 1 2
10 11
3
9
4
8 7 6 5
SCHOUP
SHIT!
IT'S ALREADY TIME TO GO TO WORK!

PEF
CLAC
OUAH
GRII
GRII
BRR, I'M FROZEN!
THE SUN ISN'T EVEN OUT YET AND I HAVE TO GO TO WORK
WHAT?
CLAC
CLAC
OOOOHH
IT'S CUT
PEF
PEF
WHAT THE? THIS TIME THEY CUT IT FASTER THAN THE LAST ONE
CRAP! I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE CAREFUL

THE CROWS WAKE UP FIRST, MUCH EARLIER THAN HUMANS.
IT'S EARLY IN THIS PART OF TOWN, WHICH IS LOCATED 2 MINS FROM SHINJUKU, NEAR THE REGIONAL RAILWAY.


NICOMART
HERE'S YOUR CHANGE

SIGH
NICO
THANKS A LOT!
NICO

SCRATCH
SCRATCH
...
HELP THEM
YEAH.. AND THE GAS BILL, I WILL DIE IF I DON'T HAVE GAS THIS SEASON!
DAMN, WE ARE AT THE END OF THE MONTH ALREADY! I MUST PAY MY RENT
I JUST PAID THE WATER BILL LATE TOO!
CROAA
CROOA
FLAP
TOC TOC

CLANG
ARE YOU TRYING TO TAME CROWS?
HEY! THIS IS ONE OF THE REMAINING MEALS! THE MANAGER'S GONNA SCOLD YOU!
WE WERE GOING TO TRASH THOSE ANYWAY RIGHT?
KEEP IT TO YOURSELF PLEASE!
YEAH
CLAC
WHAT A STUPID IDEA..!

WELL
THE ONE WITH THE BROKEN LEG IS BACK AGAIN!
HEY! YOU FORGOT TO EAT!
ME TOO, I WANT SOME!
FLAP

ME TOO
I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOME!
GROOP
WHAT?
SORRY!
HEY! I SAW YOU GIVING FOOD TO THE CROWS RIGHT?
ERR.. WELL, IT'S FORBIDDEN FOR ME TO DO THAT
I'M HUNGRY!
I HAVE NO MONEY EITHER
JUST PRETEND I WAS A CROW!
HMM.. WELL, THAT'S TRUE BUT
PLEASE! I WALKED ALL THE WAY FROM SHINJUKU SINCE I MISSED THE LAST TRAIN
WHAT A SHAME

YES! YES! THANK YOU!
I DON'T REALLY WANT SOMEONE TO SEE WHAT WE ARE DOING!

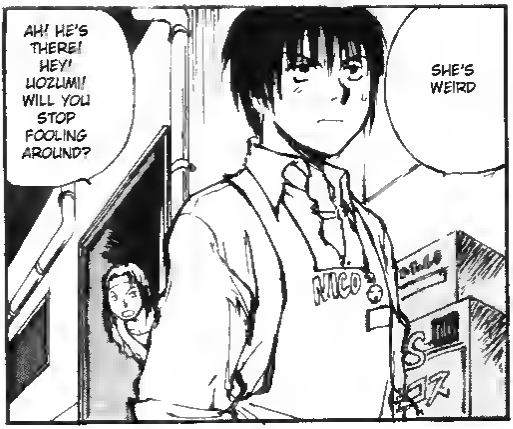
HERE, THIS IS THE LAST ONE, AND IT'S MADE OF SEAWEED
COOL!

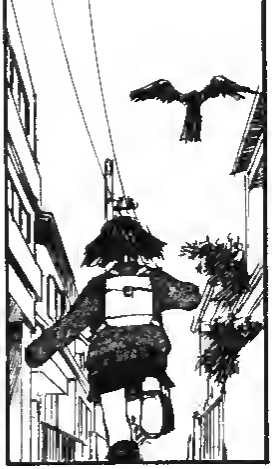
DO YOU WORK HERE EVERYDAY?

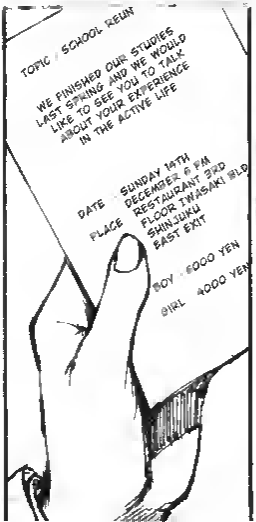
ARE YOU IN COLLEGE?
I STOPPED THIS YEAR
NOW, I HAVE THIS JOB

OH YES. AT LEAST FOUR DAYS A WEEK

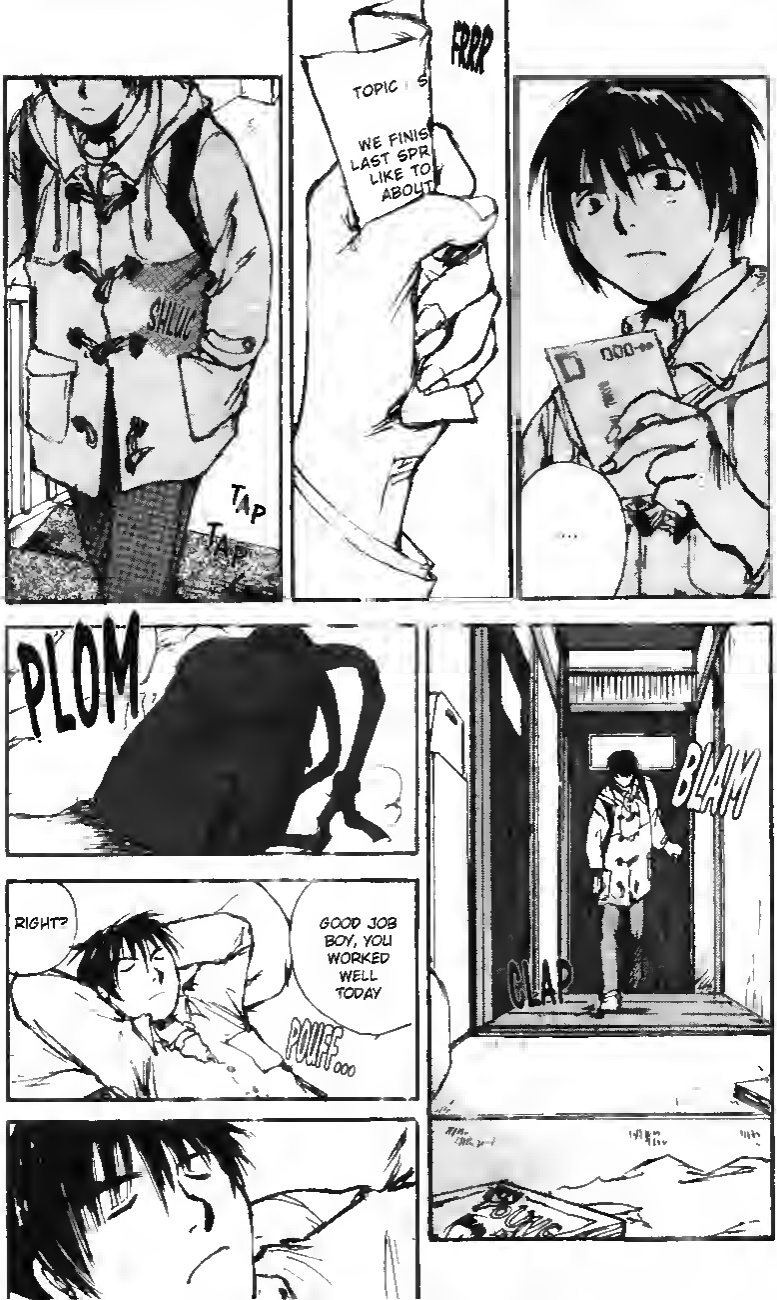
DO YOU LIKE CROWS?
YEA
THEY'RE COOL WHEN YOU'RE USED TO THEM
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF HIM, THANKS A LOT!
THIS ONE IS YOURS?
HIS NAME'S KANSUKE! HE'S CUTE YEA?
YES!
IT'S TIME TO GO! THANKS FOR THE MEAL!






TOPIC : SCHOOL REUN
WE FINISHED OUR STUDIES LAST SPRING AND WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU TO TALK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THE ACTIVE LIFE
DATE : SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 6 PM
PLACE : RESTAURANT 3RD FLOOR TWASAKI BLD SHINJUKU EAST EXIT
BOY : 6000 YEN
GIRL : 4000 YEN

• IN JAPAN, THE SCHOLAR AND UNIVERSITY YEAR ENDS IN MARCH


SHLUC
TAP
TAP
FRRP
TOPIC :
WE FINIS
LAST SPR
LIKE TO
ABOUT
PLOM
BLAM
CLAP
RIGHT?
GOOD JOB BOY, YOU WORKED WELL TODAY
POUFF
BOUM

SO,
FAREWELL

I THINK I'LL STAY THERE FOR A BIT
THERE'S A TEACHER TO SUB-STITUTE FOR
FAREWELL? AREN'T YOU JUST GOING TO KANAZAWAA TO SEE YOUR PARENTS?
YEAH! BUT
DIDN'T KNOW
AH
IF WE KEEP ON DOING LITTLE JOBS, WE WILL NEVER PROGRESS!
AND, WE ARE NOT STUDENTS ANYMORE!
WELL, I WOULD LIKE TO STAY IN TOKYO BUT ...
IF I DON'T DO THIS REPLACEMENT I WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND A JOB HERE

DRIIING
DAMN I FELL ASLEEP!
DRIIING
WHO'S THERE?
CLAC
YO!
AH!
FUKUDA!

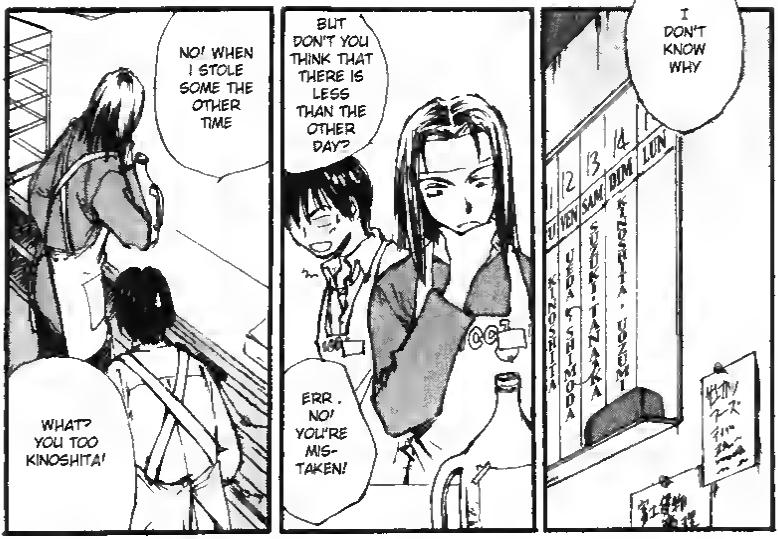
BY THE WAY, AREN'T YOU GOING TO WORK?
IT'S SATURDAY TODAY YOU KNOW!
WHAT'S THIS?
WELL IT'S OBVIOUSLY COLD WATER! THEY CUT OFF THE GAS!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL
WHEN I COME HERE IT CHEERS ME UP, REALLY!
HIS PHONE'S SO WEIRD,
AND STILL THIS OLD MEGADRIVE!
NOTHING CHANGES HERE EVERYTIME I COME TO SEE YOU, IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THE SAME!
IT'S ALWAYS SO DIRTY
LEAVE ME ALONE!
WELL
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO TALK ABOUT THAT
I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU!
YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO ACT LIKE A PERSON WHO HAS JUST ENTERED INTO AN ACTIVE LIFE
TO BUY A PRESENT FOR A FRIEND IN NEED IS COMMON!
WHY WOULD I WASTE MY MONEY FOR A DREAMER THAT SATISFIES HIMSELF WITH LITTLE JOBS?

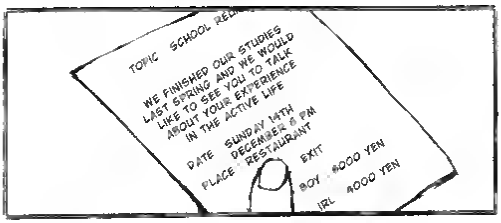
IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS SINCE WE STARTED TO WORK
AND WE STILL LIKE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT DISAGREEABLE THINGS
I DON'T WANT TO GO
THE REUNION! THE SCHOOL ONE
YOU GOT IT, RIGHT?
WHAT? ARE YOU SERIOUS?
WE JUST FINISHED OUR STUDIES!
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU DIDN'T MAKE IT
IT'S MORE LIKE YOU DIDN'T TRY?
ANYWAY
IF THERE'S SOMEONE WHO DID NOT MANAGE TO FIND A GREAT JOB, EVERYONE WILL TAKE CARE NOT TO HURT HIM!
YOU DID NOT TAKE THE STEPS TO
WELL, BECAUSE FROM THE BEGINNING YOU DIDN'T WANT THAT, RIGHT?

I HAD THE INTENTION TO
BUT THEN I REALISED, THAT I WAS NOT INTERESTED IN ANYTHING PARTICULAR
CAW...
SO WHEN YOU WORK IN A MINI-MARKET TO MAKE A LIVING, IT'S THE SAME THING RIGHT?
YEAH BUT NO-ONE ENDS UP BEING IN THE JOB THAT THEY DREAM ABOUT
SOME EMPLOYEES THINK LIKE YOU
THIS IS JUST A MATTER OF RISK, I THINK!
I CAN EASILY STOP IF I'M BORED
WHEN I SAY TO MYSELF THAT IT'S JUST A JOB, IT COMFORTS ME
WILL YOU COME?
EVEN IF A JOB DOESN'T SEEM TO BE GREAT, WHEN YOU START TO GET USED TO IT, YOU BEGIN TO SEE IT'S WORTH IT
WELL, ANYWAY
THE SAME PEOPLE WILL BE THERE AS USUAL
AND MY BOSS DOESN'T HAVE A HOPE IN PEOPLE THAT SUIT THIS JOB

AND EVEN SHINAKO MORINOME
ISN'T SHE IN KANAZAWA?
TOP
NO! IT DOESN'T MATTER!
ERR. STILL A TABOO NAME
SEE, YOU REACTED!
POP
AH!
NOT AT ALL! SHE WORKS AS A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER AT A TOKYO COLLEGE!
WERE YOU IN LOVE?
SHRRP
WELL, IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE WANTED TO ASK BUT

I DIDN'T TELL YOU, BUT I ADMIT THAT DAY I WANTED TO TELL HER I LOVED HER
IT WAS THE GRA-DUATION CEREMONY DAY
SPEAKING OF THIS, I JUST
DREAMT ABOUT HER
NO!
YEAH!
HMM, AND SHE REJECTED YOU?
WHAT COULD I SAY AFTER "WE ARE NOT STUDENTS ANYMORE! "
NO, EVEN WORSE!
HERE, TAKE MY CARD
WELL, I'LL BE LEAVING!
BUT SHE WAS ALWAYS WITH YOU ...BUT, YOU WERE JUST FRIENDS
I LIKED HER TOO EVEN WITH HER BIG EYEBROWS
THERE WERE HEAPS OF GUYS WHO LIKED HER! SHE'S KINDA CUTE!
WELL, YEAH
YAY TO THE EMPLOYEE !
WOW! ONE OF THE ESSENTIAL THINGS FOR A ACTIVE MAN IN SOCIETY!


NO! WHEN I STOLE SOME THE OTHER TIME
WHAT? YOU TOO KINOSHITA!
BUT DON'T YOU THINK THAT THERE IS LESS THAN THE OTHER DAY?
ERR. NO! YOU'RE MIS-TAKEN!
I DON'T KNOW WHY
KINOSHITA
UEDA · SHIMODA
SUGITA · TANAKA
FUJITA · UCHIMI
VEN
SAM
DIM
LUN


TOPIC SCHOOL REU
WE FINISHED OUR STUDIES LAST SPRING AND WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU TO TALK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THE ACTIVE LIFE
DATE SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 6 PM
PLACE RESTAURANT
EXIT
BOY 4000 YEN
IRL 4000 YEN

EH!
THANKS A LOT!
HI!
THANKS FOR THE LAST TIME!
YOU REALLY SAVED ME!
HMM
AS I SAID TO YOU, I W.ILKED FROM SHINJUKU AND BEFORE THAT I JUST KEPT ON DRINKING WITHOUT EATING

WHAT IS YOUR FIRST NAME?
UOZUMI?
ARE YOU ALONE TODAY?
NO, THERE'S ANOTHER GUY IN THE BACK
IT'S FORBIDDEN TO ENTER THE SHOP WITH PETS
OH!
TAKE IT EASY! HE KNOWS HOW TO BE QUIET!
AH
EHH
MY FIRST NAME?!! RIKUO
UOZUMI
OPEN IT!
OHH THANKS
MINE IS HARU!
HERE'S A LITTLE GIFT TO THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL!

WHAT'S THIS?
A PIECE OF GLASS, I TOOK IT FROM THE BEACH. IT WAS POLISHED BY THE WAVES, IT LOOKS LIKE A STONE.
SHRRR
I DIDN'T THINK THIS COULD BE SO BEAUTIFUL
HMM
SHE'S REALLY WEIRD!
AND HER CLOTHES TOO
WHAT? NAIL VARNISH?
EH?
AND WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT ?!
ERR... I STOLE IT FROM HERE, SO I'M GIVING IT BACK

CLAC
END OF SCENE 1

INNANE
#MANGAREADERS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

SCENE 2

SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: JENIAM
EDITOR: EXIT MUSIC
SCRIPT PROOFER: AIKOUKA
PROOFER: MISAO CHAN

UOZUMI
YES, GOOD DAY
HUH?
HELLO!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE
SHI... NAKO...
HI!!
WELL, ARE YOU SURPRISED?

BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T COME TO THE REUNION TODAY
I ASKED FUKUDA FOR THE STORE ADDRESS
IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS, AND I HAD MANY THINGS TO TELL YOU ABOUT
BUT SINCE WE DIDN'T SEE EACH OTHER, I DECIDED TO COME HERE
IT LOOKS LIKE I SHOULDN'T HAVE?
EH? AH... NO
OH... HELLO
YOU LOOK BUSY... I'LL WAIT FOR YOU AT THE CAFE IN THE BOULEVARD
EH..?
JOIN ME WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED WORKING!
NICO
UOZUMI

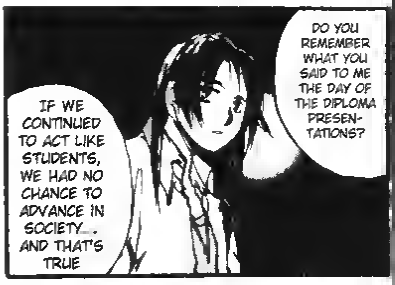
SEE YOU LATER
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU AT THE CAFE IN THE BOULEVARD
SHUUUU

SO YOU ONLY SPENT 3 MONTHS IN KANAZAWA AS A SUBSTITUTE.
YES I'VE BEEN BACK FOR 2 MONTHS
NOT CHANGED.
ONE COULD SAY THAT.. YOU HAVE..
FOR INSTANCE, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED EITHER!
SHALURP
NOBODY CHANGES IN ONLY 6 MONTHS

I BELIEVED THAT YOU WOULD NEVER RETURN TO TOKYO!
TAC
BAH, I ALWAYS KNEW YOU WERE SERIOUS...
DURING OUR STUDIES YOU ALWAYS LENT ME YOUR NOTES TO COPY.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I'M STILL A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER SUBSTITUTE?
WE ARE GOING TO HAVE FUN TOGETHER, LIKE BEFORE, RIGHT?
IT IS STILL BETTER FOR ME HERE ... THERE ARE FRIENDS.
YEP...

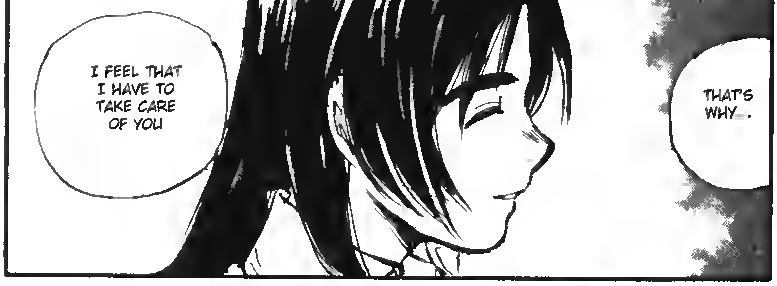
OH .. I HAVE TO GO HOME
I HAVE TO GET UP EARLY
YOU TRAVEL BY BIKE!
GLAN
I'LL GO WITH YOU
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. DID YOU THINK I ACTUALLY EXPECTED SOMETHING?
SORRY THAT I DON'T HAVE A CAR!
AND YOU'RE STILL POORLY DRESSED
THAT'S NOT NECESSARY. FOR ME, IT'S ENOUGH.

I WAS WASTED THAT NIGHT!
I THINK IT WAS DURING OUR FIRST YEAR OF UNIVERSITY.
YEP.. THAT'S TRUE
WE HAD A GLASS IN SHIN-JUKU, AND MISSED THE LAST TRAIN
HEY!... THIS WAS THE WAY!
DO YOU REMEMBER? WHEN WE WERE STUDENTS, WE WALKED HERE ALMOST EVERY NIGHT
WE WERE YOUNG! YES, YOUNG
WE WERE KIDS, EH?
HOW CAN I EXPLAIN IT TO YOU. SINCE WE'VE BASICALLY DONE NOTHING BUT STUDY..
MAYBE BECAUSE I HAVEN'T FOUND A REAL JOB, BUT I CAN'T HELP THINKING..
BUT AS FOR ME, I ALWAYS FEEL THE SAME
I HAVEN'T EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT ENTERING THE WORK FORCE...
AND I HAVEN'T CHANGED SINCE THEN


DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID TO ME THE DAY OF THE DIPLOMA PRESENTATIONS?
IF WE CONTINUED TO ACT LIKE STUDENTS, WE HAD NO CHANCE TO ADVANCE IN SOCIETY... AND THAT'S TRUE

STILL— I CAN'T IMAGINE YOU IN A SUIT AND TIE, WORKING SERIOUSLY AS A MODEL EMPLOYEE
EVEN WHEN WE WERE STUDENTS, YOU WERE THE TYPE TO STUDY QUIETLY WHEN LEFT ALONE

I THINK THAT... A GUY LIKE ME
IS CALLED MARGINAL!


I FEEL THAT I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU
THAT'S WHY...

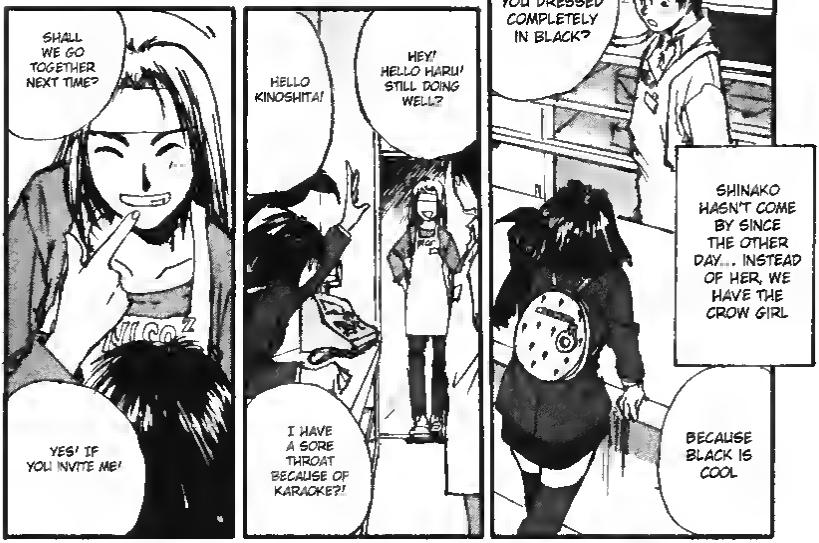
HERE IT IS

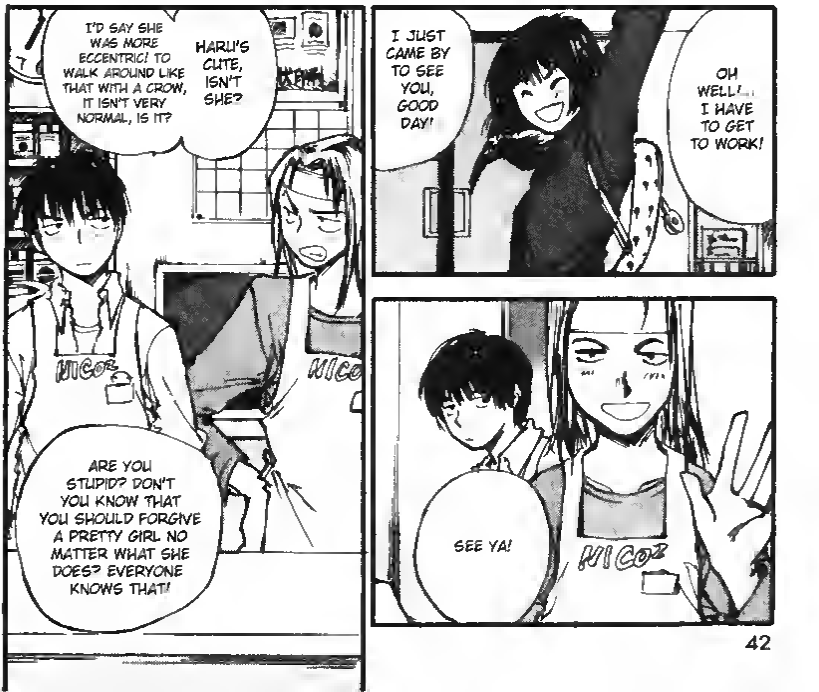
UMM .. SHINAKO
SEE YOU LATER
THANKS FOR COMING WITH ME!

OKAY!
YES!

I... I WORK IN THE STORE ABOUT FOUR DAYS A WEEK THE SHIFTS CHANGE, BUT...
AFTER WORK, YOU CAN DROP IN IF YOU HAVE THE TIME...

NICO MART
RIKOU...
HELLO!
HMM?
ALSO, THE OTHER DAY, YOU SAID THAT YOU DRANK IN SHINJUKU!
ARE YOU A PARTY GIRL?
I'M NOT A PARTY GIRL I JUST LIKE TO HAVE FUN, THAT'S ALL!
DO YOU FIND MY VOICE BIZARRE?
THAT GIRL'S A BIT TOO FRIENDLY
YOU?
I SANG KARAOKE IN SHINJUKU TILL MORNING


SHALL WE GO TOGETHER NEXT TIME?
YES! IF YOU INVITE ME!
HELLO KINOSHITA!
HEY! HELLO HARU! STILL DOING WELL?
I HAVE A SORE THROAT BECAUSE OF KARAOKE?!
WHY ARE YOU DRESSED COMPLETELY IN BLACK?
SHINAKO HASN'T COME BY SINCE THE OTHER DAY... INSTEAD OF HER, WE HAVE THE CROW GIRL
BECAUSE BLACK IS COOL


I'D SAY SHE WAS MORE ECCENTRIC! TO WALK AROUND LIKE THAT WITH A CROW, IT ISN'T VERY NORMAL, IS IT?
HARU'S CUTE, ISN'T SHE?
ARE YOU STUPID? DON'T YOU KNOW THAT YOU SHOULD FORGIVE A PRETTY GIRL NO MATTER WHAT SHE DOES? EVERYONE KNOWS THAT!
I JUST CAME BY TO SEE YOU, GOOD DAY!
OH WELL!... I HAVE TO GET TO WORK!
SEE YA!

I DON'T KNOW?
YOU DON'T KNOW!!? YOU NEVER ASKED HER?
SHE LIVES NEAR HERE?
WHEN I ASK HER, SHE JUST TOLD ME HER FIRST NAME HARU, AND THAT'S IT...
SHE DOESN'T ANSWER.
IN MY OPINION, SHE ISN'T VERY INTERESTED IN ME
HUMM.... ME
IF SHE WAS AROUND ME, IT WOULDN'T BE VERY LONG BEFORE WE FOUND OURSELVES IN BED
WHY?
POOooo HE ISN'T LISTENING TO ME
WHAT?
I FEEL LIKE I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.

HOZUMI, HERE...!
WHAT IS IT?
OUR GROUP IS GOING TO RELEASE A CD
YOUR PASSION IS PHOTOGRAPHY, ISN'T IT?
AND WE NEED A PHOTO FOR THE COVER
BUT, I'M NOT THAT GOOD .
NO PROBLEM! WE'RE AMATEURS TOO!
I DON'T KNOW VERY MUCH ABOUT MUSIC .
IT WOULD BE GOOD IF THE PHOTO WERE IN BLACK AND WHITE. VERY COOL!
YOU HAVE TO THINK OF AN IMAGE! JUST AN IMAGE!
WELL! THANKS! HAVE FUN!
LISTEN TO THE CASSETTE AND VISUALIZE AN IMAGE!
SO YOU SAY!

CLAC
THIS MUSIC WAS MAYBE
A BIT ROUGH AND AGGRESSIVE, BUT...
IT WASN'T DIS-AGREEABLE
MUSIC...
IF I COULD IMMERSE MYSELF IN IT COMPLETELY, I WOULD CERTAINLY BE DIFFERENT THAN I AM AT THIS MOMENT.
UOZUMI!
ISN'T THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU'D LIKE TO DO?

INTELLIGENT AND COURAGEOUS
SHE WAS ALWAYS POSITIVE
I'D LIKE TO BE A TEACHER
ME...
SHE TOOK GOOD CARE OF OTHERS
YOU CAN'T SKIP CLASSES, EH?
UOZUMI...
MAYBE THAT'S WHY I LOVE HER
I CAN'T KEEP UP TO HER
EVEN NOW AFTER SIX MONTHS

GROOA
HUH?
FLAP
OH!
KANSUKE
AH...
IT'S YOU

OH?
HMM?
FLAP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M WALKING KANSUKE!
YOU'RE WALKING A CROW?
USUALLY HE STAYS IN THE ROOM
YES, HIS FOOT ISN'T WELL

I'M DONE WITH MY ERRANDS
WE'RE NOT GOING TO JUST STAND HERE TALKING, ARE WE?
BUT WHY WITH ME?
FLAP
COME ON, GO HAVE FUN!
YOU LIVE ALONE?
YES, THAT'S IT!
TELL ME DOESN'T YOUR FAMILY TELL YOU TO STAY HOME?
I DON'T HAVE A FAMILY!
MY ONLY FAMILY IS KANSUKE!
I FOUND HIM HERE...
HE WAS INJURED AND HALF DEAD

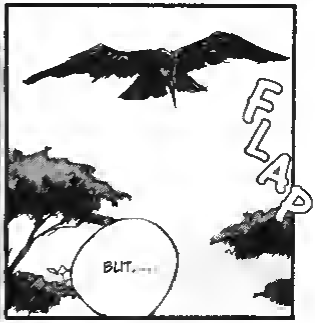
AND ME AS WELL
AND YOU BRING HIM HERE WITH YOU ALL THE TIME!?
AH...
YOU NEVER ANSWER MY QUESTIONS
I'M A STUDENT AT TOUDAI*
CAN YOU GIVE ME ONE?
YOU'RE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL AREN'T YOU?
YOU ALWAYS HAVE GOOD REASONS NOT TO TELL ME WHO YOU REALLY ARE.
YOU'RE MAKING FUN OF ME?
FOR EXAMPLE, YOU COULD BE A CAT BURGLAR.

*TOUDAI : TOKYO'S NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

PFOUUU
I COME TO THE STORE...
BECAUSE I WANT TO SEE YOU!
THANK YOU!
...
HOW CAN YOU RESIST A MYSTERIOUS LADY WHO FLIRTS WITH YOU?
OH, WHAT MODESTY
I'M NOT NAIVE ENOUGH TO BELIEVE IN THE LOVE OF A GIRL WHOM I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT
ALSO, IT HASN'T BEEN LONG SINCE WE MET
THAT'S ALL YOU SAY...
NOT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST EMOTION!

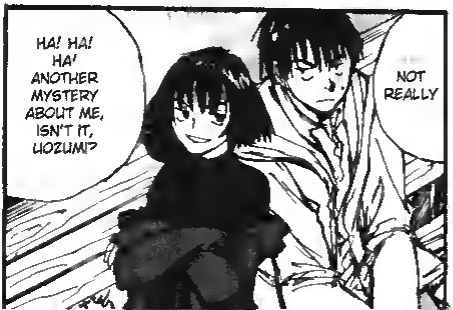
I'VE KNOWN YOU FOR A LONG TIME!

PIII


FLAP
BUT...

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

SINCE WHEN?
WHAT'S THAT STORY?


HA! HA! HA! ANOTHER MYSTERY ABOUT ME, ISN'T IT, UOZUMI?
NOT REALLY

IF YOUR MEMORY IS GOOD...
YOU'LL EVENTUALLY REMEMBER
WELL, WHO AM I?
SADLY, THERE ARE TOO MANY THINGS I DON'T WANT TO REMEMBER
FLAP
TOC

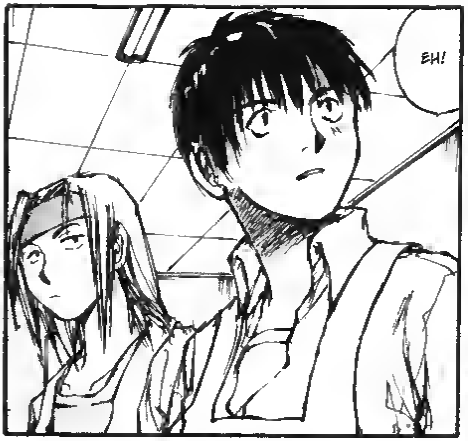
IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS. ON THAT DAY, IT SNOWED...
YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER...
THAT WE HAVE ALREADY MET?

WHEN...?
I CONTINUED TO THINK ABOUT IT ONCE I GOT BACK
BUT I REALLY COULDN'T REMEMBER

INANE
#MANGAREADERS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

SCENE 3

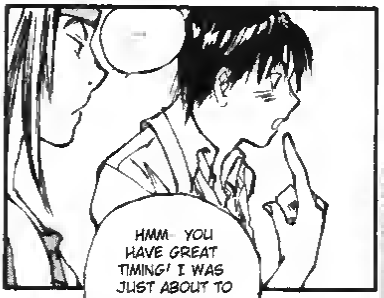
SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: JENIAM
EDITOR: EXIT MUSIC
SCRIPT PROOFER: AIKOUKA
PROOFER: MISAO CHAN


EH!

NICO MART

SHINAKO
I WAS IN THE AREA, SO I CAME HERE

AH— YOU'RE HERE!

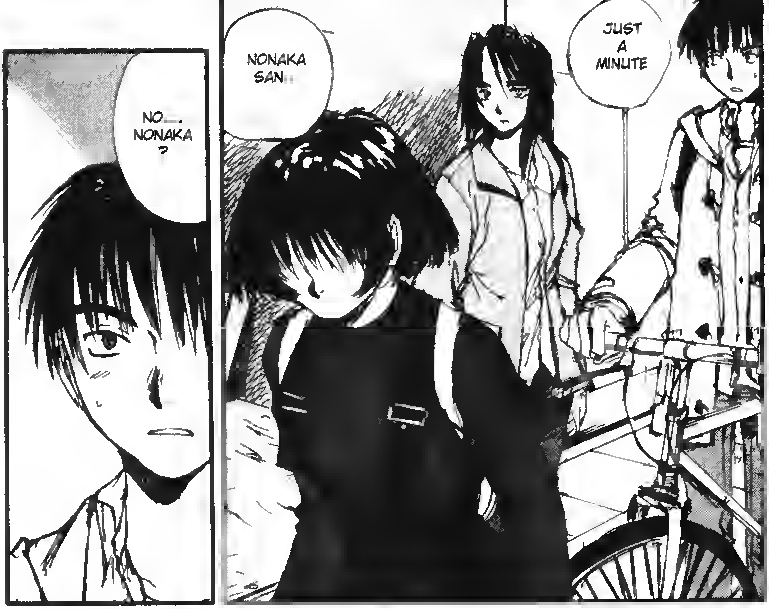

HMM... YOU HAVE GREAT TIMING! I WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE. CAN YOU WAIT FOR ME NEAR HERE?

HUM... WHEN I TELL THIS TO HARU
MM MM
CAN YOU WAIT FOR ME BY THE BIKE PARKING!?
OKAY!
BUT... I WAS JUST PASSING BY
SO, I'M GOING TO WALK YOU HOME
I DON'T HAVE ANY REASONS TO WORRY
DO AS YOU WISH ...
CLAC
WELL, SPEAK OF THE DEVIL ...
HELLO YOUNG WORKERS, WORKING HARD?

HEHE, MY BAD
HE WAS WITH A MYSTERIOUS AND BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WHO PASSED BY HERE
RIKOU ISN'T HERE?
HE JUST LEFT RUNNING AND FAST
WELL, I'M GOING HOME! I'LL PLAY A VIDEO GAME AND THEN GO TO BED!
IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, THEY MIGHT STILL BE BEHIND THE STORE
NO, I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT! KINOSHITA, THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT, BUT HEADBANDS ARE VERY BAD FOR THE ROOTS OF YOUR HAIR.
HUM

YOU'RE GOING BACK TO HIGH SCHOOL?
YES, I'M BUSY WITH STUDENT ADVISING
I'M REPLACING A 3RD YEAR TEACHER ON MATERNITY LEAVE, AND AT THIS SCHOOL, THE MAJORITY OF THE STUDENTS GO ON IN THEIR STUDIES...
THERE ARE MANY THINGS TO DO!
UMM
RIKOU!
WHA..?
FINALLY! I CAUGHT YOU IN THE ACT!
HA.... HARU!
HOW HORRIBLE! SO, HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN CHEATING ON ME?

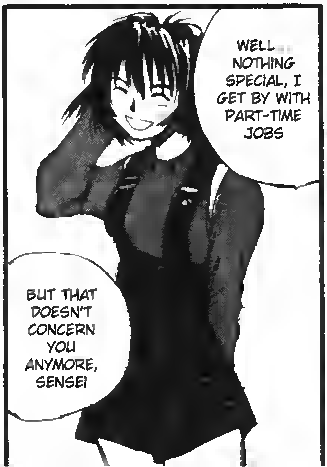
WELL, DOES IT EMBARRASS YOU?
GOOD DAY! PLEASED TO...
THE OTHER DAY ON A TV MOVIE, I SAW A WOMAN WHO TALKED LIKE THAT WHEN SHE CAUGHT HER BOYFRIEND WITH SOMEONE ELSE...
HEY... STOP IT. IT'LL CAUSE A MISUNDER-STANDING!
POF
NONAKA SENSEI!
WHAT?
EH?
GOOD BYE!
GOOD, WELL, I'M OFF!
SHAC


NO... NONAKA ?
NONAKA SAN!!
JUST A MINUTE

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW...?
NONAKA SAN

WELL... I WASN'T EXPECTING TO SEE YOU SENSEI!
THIS IS A SURPRISE!

THAT'S TRUE ...


WELL... NOTHING SPECIAL, I GET BY WITH PART-TIME JOBS
BUT THAT DOESN'T CONCERN YOU ANYMORE, SENSEI

I AM A TEACHER, THAT'S TRUE, BUT I THINK THAT IT'S NORMAL FOR STUDENTS TO HAVE PART-TIME JOBS IF THEY WANT TO
IN HIGH SCHOOL, YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING..
LISTEN
THERE IS SOMETHING I WANTED TO SAY TO YOU..
I STILL REGRET NOT BEING ABLE TO SAY THAT..
TO THE VICE-PRINCIPAL AT THAT MOMENT
I'M SORRY
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT SENSEI
I DIDN'T QUIT SCHOOL ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT
I'D THOUGHT ABOUT IT BEFORE I DID IT
IT'S NOT BE-CAUSE OF THE TEA-CHERS AT ALL

FLAP
WELL, I HAVE TO GO! SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU! GOOD BYE!
SHE WAS.
ONE OF MY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, IT WAS NORMAL THAT THE SCHOOL KICKED HER OUT!
THE SCHOOL SUSPENDED HER A WHILE BACK, AND SHE FINALLY DECIDED TO QUIT.
YES— BUT
SHE'S A SMART GIRL— IF AT LEAST ONE TEACHER UNDERSTOOD HER
SHE WOULDN'T HAVE DECIDED TO ABANDON IT ALL
SHE WAS WORKING PART-TIME AT BARS OR THOSE TYPES OF PLACES, AND THE SCHOOL FOUND OUT—

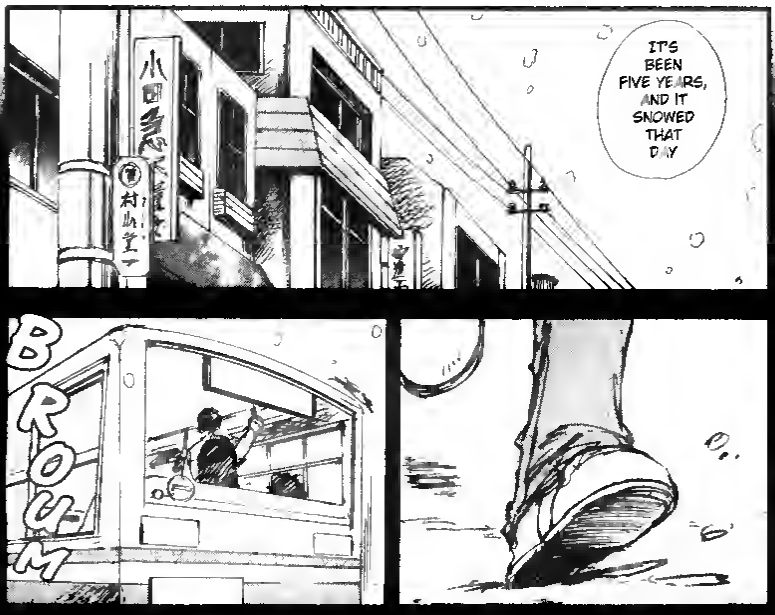
I'M NOT SURE
BUT, SHE SEEMS TO BE DOING WELL NOW
I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HER, DO YOU?
TELL ME, I DIDN'T THINK THAT YOU'D KNOW HER
SHE SEEMS QUITE FAMILIAR WITH YOU
IT'S NOT THAT AT ALL!!
SHE'S JUST A REGULAR AT THE STORE!! BUT ALSO A PROFESSIONAL THIEF
I'D LIKE YOU TO TRY TO BE A FRIEND TO HER.
SHE'S A BIT STRANGE, BUT SHE'S A GOOD GIRL
THAT IS ACCLAIM!
?
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?
NO, IT'S NOTHING

THANKS... IT WAS VERY NICE OF YOU TO ACCOMPANY ME
GOOD NIGHT!
PLAF
PFOU...
HOUUU
BOO!
BRR
WHY DID YOU SIGH?
DID SHINAKO SENSEI TELL YOU ANYTHING?
I THOUGHT YOU WENT HOME!?
HA... HARU!
PHEW!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WITH YOUR "THAT'S WHAT I WAS SAYING"?
I UNDERSTAND VERY WELL THAT YOU MUST BE CAREFUL
SHE MUST HAVE BEEN YOUR FRIEND AT THE UNIVERSITY
YOU LOVE HER, BUT NOT VICE VERSA, RIGHT?
THAT WASN'T A VERY TENDER GOODBYE
THAT DOESN'T CONCERN YOU!
THAT'S WHAT I WAS SAYING!
AH...
FLAP
HEY! MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
I THINK THAT...
BUT...
IT'LL BE OKAY!
ST..
STOP TALKING TO ME LIKE YOU KNOW EVERYTHING!
THAT'S CLASSIC
IT MUST MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT SINCE YOU'VE BEEN FRIENDS FOR A LONG TIME
...
THE WORST PART IS THAT YOU RISK LOSING YOUR FRIENDSHIP

AFTER THIS FAILURE, IF YOU KNOW HOW TO BACK OFF NICELY, YOU DON'T RISK LOSING YOUR RELATIONSHIP
IT'LL DEPEND ON YOUR DEGREE OF MATURITY
AND YOU CAN ALWAYS FEEL CALM AROUND SOMEONE TO WHOM YOU'VE DECLARED YOUR FEELINGS
I KNOW THAT SHINAKO SENSEI IS A VERY NICE WOMAN
IT'LL BE OKAY! I'M SURE SHE'LL STAY A GOOD FRIEND, AS IF NOTHING EVER HAPPENED
YOU'RE NOT A GIRL, YOU'RE A DEMON!
RIKOU! YOU ARE, WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE KIND OF GUY
WHOM THE GIRLS TRICK EASILY
ON THAT POINT, I AGREE WITH YOU! SO I AM CAREFUL
I HAVE NO REASON TO TRUST A LIAR!

I'VE CHANGED A LOT SINCE THEN!
I WAS SURE!
AND WELL... I HAVE NO MEMORY OF IT!
WHEN WE MET
OH... YES, WHAT YOU TOLD ME THE OTHER DAY...


IT'S BEEN FIVE YEARS, AND IT SNOWED THAT DAY
BROUM

DARN!
OH!
WHAT?
YOU LOST SOME-THING!

I'M SUCH AN IDIOT.
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT!
CARTE DE CANDIDAT
AH!
THANKS A LOT!

AH ALL RIGHT
THAT WAS THE DAY?
IT WAS THE DAY OF A VERY IMPORTANT COMPETITION!
LATER, WHEN I WAS GOING TO SCHOOL, I SAW YOU AGAIN, WHILE YOU WERE WAITING FOR THE BUS TO THE UNIVERSITY
WHEN I REMEMBERED, I THOUGHT TO MYSELF THAT I WAS SURE THAT THIS BOY HAD PASSED HIS COMPETITION, AND THAT WAS GOOD.
DON'T FORGET TO THANK ME!

I EVEN WENT TO YOUR FACULTY
TO FIND YOU DURING THE UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL
WHEN I ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL
I THINK AT THAT MOMENT
IT WAS LIKE SOMEONE HAD PUSHED A BUTTON IN MY HEAD
EVEN THOUGH I NEVER SAW YOU AT THE BUS STOP AGAIN
I DON'T KNOW WHY... I COULDN'T FORGET YOU
BUT I COULDN'T RESIST IT
I KNOW IT'S STRANGE
THAT LOVE IS AN ILLUSION

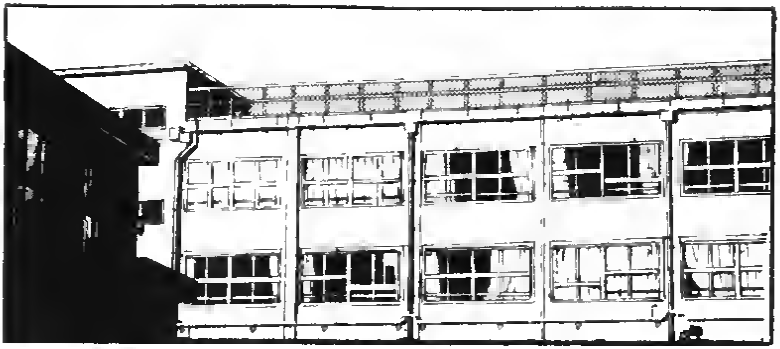
I FOUND OUT YOU HAD A PART-TIME JOB AT THE STORE TWO WEEKS AGO
AND UNTIL THE MORNING WHEN I TALKED TO YOU, I WAS CONTENT WITH MYSELF WATCHING YOU FROM AFAR
...
IT'S COMPLETELY STUPID!
AND THAT'S WHY FOR FIVE YEARS!
I'M TEASING YOU!

END OF SCENE 3

#MANGAREADERS
@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

SCENE 4

SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: JENIAM
EDITOR: EXIT MUSIC
SCRIPT PROOFER: AIKOUKA
PROOFER: MISAO CHAN



NEXT WEEK WE'LL BE STARTING LAB WORK SO DON'T FORGET TO GET THE ROOM READY PLEASE

OKAY, WE'RE GOING TO STOP HERE FOR TODAY

UMM, COULD I ASK YOU A FEW QUES-TIONS?
ABOUT THE MATERIAL WE JUST COVERED?

MORINOME SENSEI

I SAW YOU PASSING IN FRONT OF MY PLACE WITH A MAN PUSHING A BICYCLE

SENSEI, WERE YOU REALLY WALKING WITH A MAN THE OTHER NIGHT?

YES
UMM

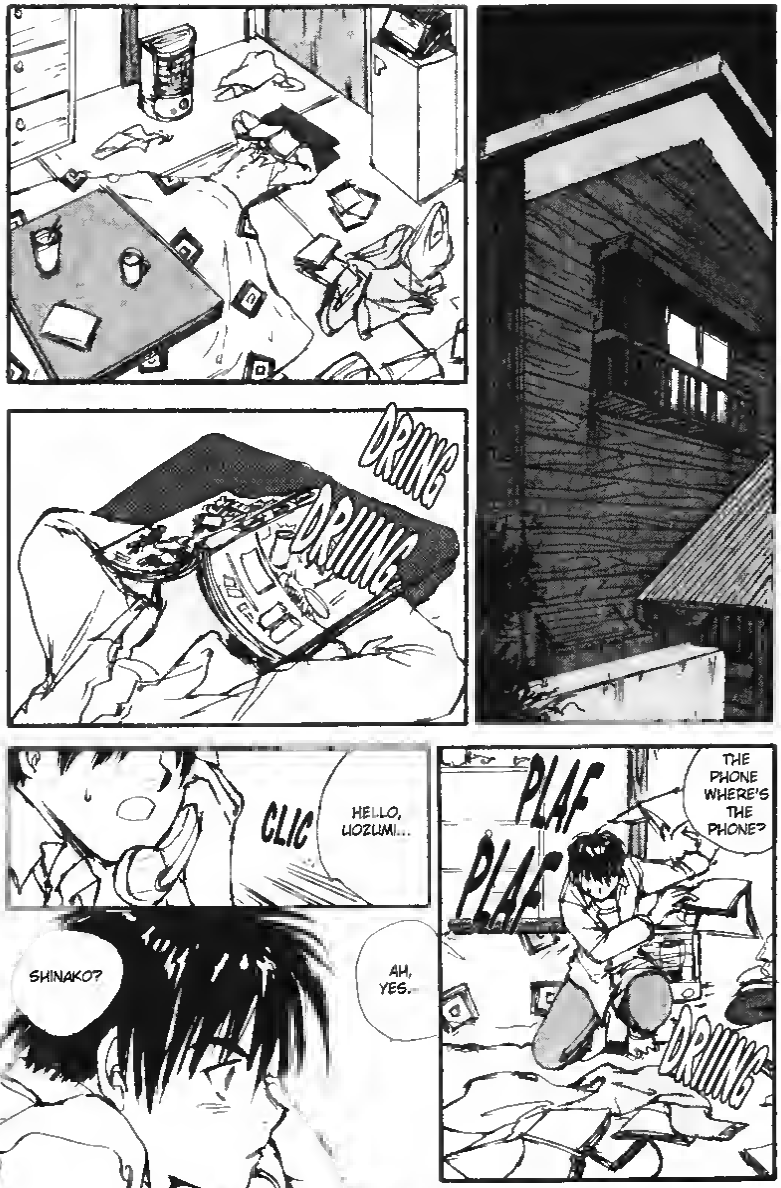
STAFF ROOM

HE'S A FRIEND WE WERE STUDENTS TOGETHER
AH, I THOUGHT HE WAS YOUR BOYFRIEND

MORINOME SENSEI! COULD YOU COME TO THE PERSONNEL OFFICE?
UMM, OKAY?

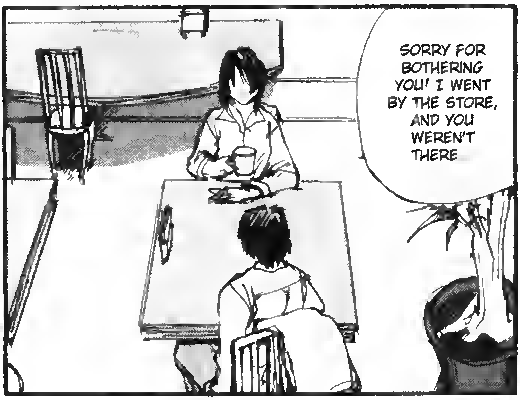
COME ON, ANSWER ME? WHO WAS IT?
HUH?
WHO WAS THE WOMAN FROM THE OTHER NIGHT?
UMM... WHEN I WAS A STUDENT
YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?
HOW CAN I SAY IT... SHE WAS JUST... A FRIEND
IT WASN'T THAT SIMPLE
HE UNDERSTOOD EVERYTHING
COME ON, YOU CAN SAVE YOURSELF
IT MUST BE HARD FOR YOU, ISN'T IT?
SHE'S A TEACHER AT THE NEARBY HIGH SCHOOL NOW

THANKS!
NICO
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I CAN'T MANAGE TO FORGET ABOUT HER...
SHE...
HARU HASN'T COME BACK SINCE THE OTHER NIGHT
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT THAT GIRL REALLY!
WERE THEY LIES?


DRING
DRING
CLIC
HELLO, UOZUMI...
SHINAKO?
AH, YES...
PLAF
PLAF
THE PHONE WHERE'S THE PHONE?
DRING

NOS

OH, IT'S NOTHING
WHAT'S GOING ON?


SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU! I WENT BY THE STORE, AND YOU WEREN'T THERE

CONVER-SATIONS ABOUT US, FULL OF SIMPLICITY

WELL... NOTHING SPECIAL, BUT...
I WAS NEARBY

THERE'S A POSSIBILITY THAT THE SCHOOL MIGHT HIRE ME PERMANENTLY
BUT...

THAT'S VERY GOOD NEWS!
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN POSITIVE...

I DON'T KNOW IF SHE KNOWS HOW I FEEL OR NOT, BUT SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN VERY OPEN WITH ME...
IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE WE WERE STUDENTS

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
AND ME... EVERY TIME I SEE HER SO "POSITIVE"

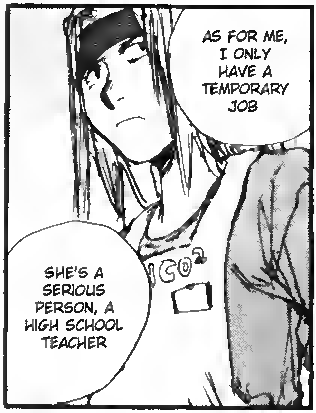
YOU DON'T HAVE FRIENDS?

ACTUALLY, I JUST WANTED TO TALK ABOUT IT WITH SOMEONE...

AHH...
LATER!
BYE!
BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO!!?
TELL ME, I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT YOU ARE GOOD WITH THE GIRLS, AREN'T YOU?
YEAH! SHE CALLED ME ..
WHY? YOU'LL HAVE TO TELL ME YOUR SECRET!
NICO MART
HEY! YOUR FAMOUS FRIEND CAME BY HERE LAST NIGHT

BUT YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH HER, AREN'T YOU?
YES .

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK AT ALL....
SHE THINKS OF ME AS JUST A FRIEND


AS FOR ME, I ONLY HAVE A TEMPORARY JOB
SHE'S A SERIOUS PERSON, A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER

BUT... HOW DO I SAY THIS
I TOLD MYSELF THAT IT'S GOOD IF WE STAY FRIENDS

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING YOU JUST SAID!
IT'S NOT IMPORTANT THAT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND

HOW CAN I EXPLAIN IT... IT'S AS IF IT WAS ONLY A BEAUTIFUL DREAM FOR ME
I HAVE A LOT OF RESPECT FOR HER AND IF SHE BECAME MY GIRL-FRIEND, I'M AFRAID THAT WOULD CHANGE

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY, BUT YOU SEEM RESIGNED!
OR AT LEAST YOU THINK THAT IT ISN'T GOOD TO TRY HARD?
WHAT?
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT YOU ALWAYS SEEM TO BE RUNNING AWAY FROM REALITY.
HMM ..
NICO
WHEN YOU THINK LIKE THAT, YOU ONLY MANAGE TO END UP DISAPPOINTED....
SO THAT YOU DON'T GET HURT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS....
I KNOW I'M NOT THE ONE TO TALK TO YOU LIKE THIS ..
BECAUSE I HAVE MUSIC AS AN EXCUSE TO CONTINUE WITH THIS TYPE OF PART-TIME JOB!
REALLY!
NICO

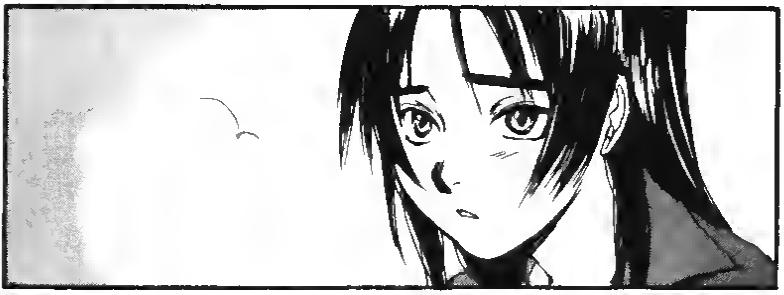
EACH TIME SHINAKO TELLS ME ABOUT HER DETERMINATION TO GO AHEAD, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY
THAT IS .. I THINK THAT I'M A BIT TOO MARGINAL AND IN A BAD POSITION TO MAKE REMARKS TO SOMEONE WHO IS GIVING THEIR ALL IN THEIR PROJECTS
IS THAT WHY I SEEM RESI-GNED?
NO ... IN REALITY, I AM SATISFIED WITH THE PHASE "I LIVE OUT OF THE SYSTEM"
I DON'T WANT TO FIND A BETTER JOB, AND I DON'T DARE TELL A WOMAN THAT I LOVE HER.
BECAUSE I PREFER TO GO ALONG WITH SOME AMBIGUITY...
AND THROUGH THAT WAY, I CAN SAVE MY FACE INSTEAD OF FINALLY RISKING PAIN
DIING

OH, IT'S YOU UOZUMI!
WHAT IS IT?
CLAC
WHO IS IT?
EXCUSE ME... I KNOW IT'S LATE...
CAN YOU COME OUT FOR A MOMENT....
NO... HERE IS OKAY...
WE CAN GO TO THE CAFE IF YOU WANT?
I... I LOVE YOU
I'VE WANTED TO TELL YOU THIS FOR A LONG TIME...

WE AREN'T KIDS ANYMORE!
I CARE ABOUT YOU A LOT TOO
NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANTED TO SAY...

...
I'M SERIOUS!

... BUT I KNOW IF ONE MISSES THE MOMENT FOR THIS TYPE OF THING, IT BECOMES RIDICULOUS
OKAY, I AGREE...
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I'M TELLING YOU THIS NOW?



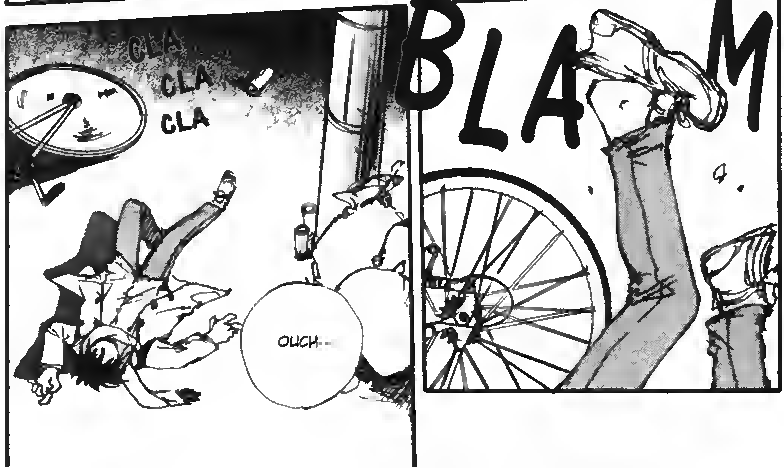
I..
DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
SCRATCH SCRATCH
WOULD IT BE...
POSSIBLE TO STAY JUST FRIENDS...?
I THOUGHT THAT A MAN AND A WOMAN COULD BE VERY GOOD FRIENDS...
AND THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP COULD BE LIKE THAT...

NO
AH...
I HAD IMAGINED THAT...
I'M SORRY
I EXPECTED SOMETHING LIKE THAT
DON'T WORRY!
IT'S JUST THAT... I WANTED TO KNOW IF I HAD THE COURAGE ..
SHHH!
OKAY, I'M GOING HOME..
THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO TELL YOU
HUH ....
I'M OFF!

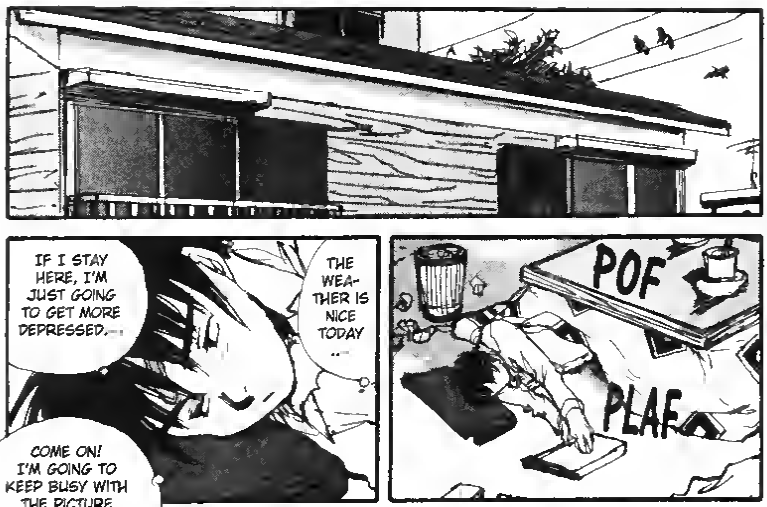
SHHH!

IF I HAD TOLD HER THE DAY WE GOT OUR DIPLOMAS, IT WOULDN'T HAVE DRAGGED ON UNTIL NOW!
COURAGE RIKUO! DON'T LET YOURSELF GET DEPRESSED

!
CLANG


CLA
CLA
CLA
OUCH...
BLAM

SHIIIT I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS LIFE!
BUT, LIFE GOES ON
IT'S LIKE THAT
JUST AS WELL...


IF I STAY HERE, I'M JUST GOING TO GET MORE DEPRESSED...
THE WEA-THER IS NICE TODAY ...
COME ON! I'M GOING TO KEEP BUSY WITH THE PICTURE KINOSHITA ASKED ME FOR...
POF
PLAF

HUH?
CROAA
COULD YOU GIVE ME A CIGARETTE, PLEASE?
SINCE IT'S A NICE DAY, I CHOSE THE PARK...
BUT, THIS ISN'T THE AREA FOR PUNK MUSIC....

HELLO!
FLAP
HARU..
...
YOU WERE WORRIED?
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOU'VE COME TO THE STORE
...
NOT AT ALL...
YOUR FOREHEAD ... WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
BUT... WE PARTED ON A BIZARRE NOTE LAST TIME

SOMEONE BURST AN ILLUSION AND I FELL WITH MY BIKE ..
I'M JUST..
TRYING TO QUESTION MYSELF
AND I WAS ASKING MYSELF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I DIDN'T PROTECT MYSELF .
BUT NOTHING HAPPENED AT ALL ... IT'S THE SAME AS BEFORE!
STOP LYING TO MYSELF..

UMM
YOU ARE COURA-GEOUS
WHAT?
I'M A LITTLE
ANGRY WITH MYSELF RIGHT NOW!
NO ONE CAN TELL OUR REAL INTENTIONS WHEN WE LIE...
THAT WAY IT IS EASIER FOR OTHERS AND FOR US...
...OFTEN, THOSE THAT WE CALL LIARS
IIH...
..AREN'T WELL LIKED
AS FOR ME...I LIKE THEM

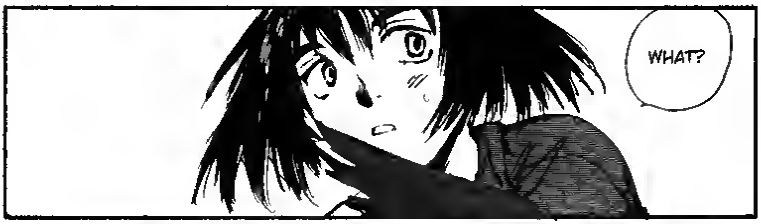
BEFORE, I GOT ALONG WITH THE OTHERS BY COPYING IRRESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR
AND I LIVED VAGUELY BY TRICKING
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING THAT COULD HURT OTHERS OR ME...
AND I BECAME USELESS AND MORE ALONE...
BUT THAT PLEASED ME!
BECAUSE I DIDN'T LIKE THINKING ABOUT MYSELF...
AND I DIDN'T LIKE MYSELF VERY MUCH EITHER...
THAT'S THE REASON I WORE GLASSES...
EVEN THOUGH I HAD GOOD EYESIGHT, I CREATED A PERSONALITY...
I HAVE NO DESIRE FOR ANYONE TO UNDERSTAND ME

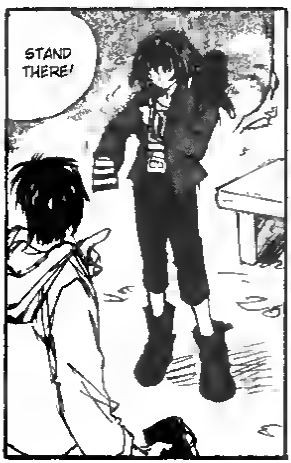
DO YOU KNOW THEY LIKE LIARS?
I HAD NO PROBLEMS DURING SCHOOL
...BUT THIS ROLE WE PLAY WITH OTHERS, FINALLY, IT EXHAUSTS YOU
THAT'S WHY I QUIT HIGH SCHOOL
I MUST HAVE FELT LIKE KEEPING SOMETHING REAL
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO BLAME MYSELF FOR
IT'S TRUE THAT IT WAS A BIT BECAUSE OF MY JOB, BUT...
A LIAR DOESN'T LOSE ANYTHING BUT THEY DON'T WIN ANYTHING EITHER, DO THEY?
TAP
I'M A LIAR, BUT IT'S THE FIRST TIME THAT I WISH FOR SOMEONE TO LOVE ME...
I HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT I'VE LOST MY "PROTECTION" AS WELL

DO YOU KNOW AESOP'S FABLE ABOUT THE CHILD THAT ALWAYS CRIED "WOLF"
HMM .
SHE'S A BIT LIKE ME
THE TECHNIQUE FOR LYING WELL
IS PUTTING JUST A LITTLE BIT OF TRUTH IN THE LIES, IT SEEMS
CROAA
FLAP
GOOD, I'M OFF!
PI
CLANG
HEY, IS THAT YOUR CAMERA!

HOLD ON, CAN I TAKE A PICTURE?

YEP...

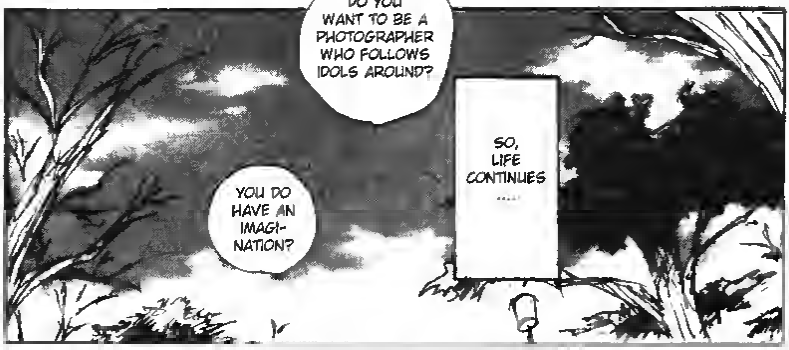

WHAT?

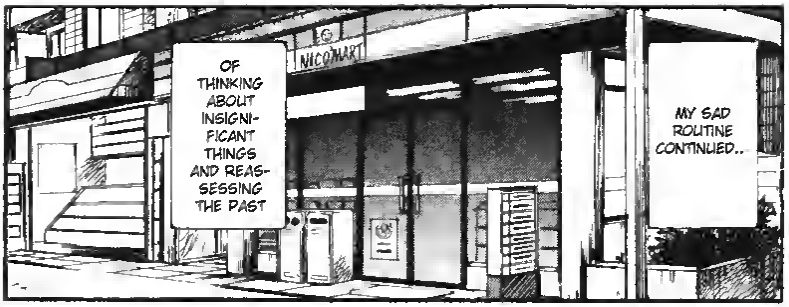

STAND THERE!

IS HERE ALL RIGHT?

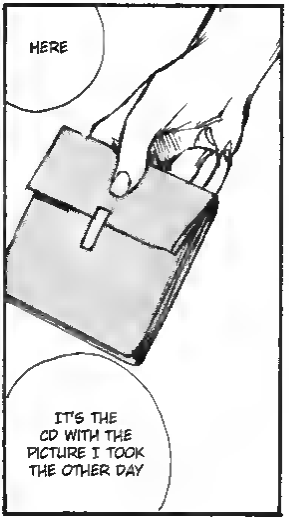
IT'LL BE FOR A CD COVER/ FOR AN AMATEUR GROUP
WILL YOU?
AH?
UMM?

IT WON'T BE VERY SERIOUS
ANY KIND, IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME! DO AS YOU LIKE!
SO ..
WHAT KIND OF EXPRES-SION DO YOU WANT?
PFF FFF
HUM ..
SO, IT'LL BE ORDINARY, BUT GOOD
CLAC
YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE FORCING YOURSELF.


DO YOU WANT TO BE A PHOTOGRAPHER WHO FOLLOWS IDOLS AROUND?
YOU DO HAVE AN IMAGI-NATION?
SO, LIFE CONTINUES .....

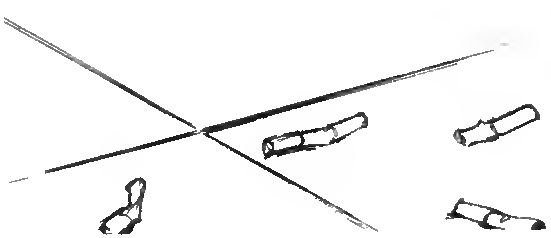

NICOMART
OF THINKING ABOUT INSIGNI-FICANT THINGS AND REAS-SESSING THE PAST
MY SAD ROUTINE CONTINUED..

...
OH, HOW IS IT? I'M A BIT SHY.


HERE
IT'S THE CD WITH THE PICTURE I TOOK THE OTHER DAY

SNOW WHITE
by WANDERING HIGH
WHAT IS THIS!?
HEY?
I NEVER SAID I WAS GOING TO TAKE YOUR PICTURE, DID I?
YOU...
MY PRINCIPLE IS THAT I DON'T TAKE PICTURES OF HUMANS.
HI HI HI
NICO 2
YOU DRIVE ME CRAZY!

HUH?
WHAT?
I PUT MYSELF IN THE WRONG...
SHIT!
DO YOU KNOW THE HAIKU THAT SAYS, "IF THE CUCKOO DOESN'T SING, I'LL MAKE IT SING"
NO! BY HIDEYOSHI! ARE YOU SURE THAT YOU HAVE YOUR DIPLOMA?
YES, I KNOW IT. THE ONE BY IEYASU?
NICO



What is love?
Scene 1

Scanner: Aliera
Translator: Jeniam
Proofer: Misao-Chan/Aikouka
Editor: [Asimov]
QC: Misao-Chan

What Is Love?
Scene 1

LOOK HERE !!
SENSEI, GET IN THE MIDDLE !!
... ME?
CLIC
SEE YOU LATER SENSEI!
GOOD LUCK!

NICO² MART
STOP SLEEPING, PLEASE!
HEY! KINOSHITA!
HUH? LEAVE ME ALONE UOZUMI!
EVEN IF I'M NOT WORKING, THE WORLD WILL STILL TURN.
YEAH, BUT IM BORED!
NICO²

HUH? WHAT DOES HARU* HAVE TO DO WITH THIS?
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT
THAT'S TRUE, IT'S ALREADY SPRING
OUAAAH
I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT LATELY I CAN'T STOP SLEEPING
IT'S THE NICE WEATHER THAT'S COMING, THEY SAY
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ME ?
WHAT'S WITH THAT REACTION?
DAMMIT! IT'S HARU!

*NOTE: THIS IS A PUN. "HARU" IN JAPANESE MEANS "SPRING", BUT IT IS ALSO THE FEMALE CHARACTER'S NAME

DON'T SAY SUCH STUPID THINGS, CAN'T YOU SEE IM AT WORK?
IT'S REALLY NICE OUTSIDE RIKOU, LET'S GO OUT?
KINO-SHITA !!
HE HASN'T RECOVERED FROM HIS LOSS IN LOVE YET!
HEY HARU, WE CAN GO, JUST THE TWO OF US IF YOU WANT!
UUHHH...
DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE HERE!!!
WHAT THE HECK, I'LL GO BY MYSELF!
SEE YOU LATER!
CLAC
YOU'RE STILL DEPRESSED!!?
DARN!!!

SHE COMES TO MAKE FUN OF YOU DOESN'T SHE?
YOU THINK SO?
GOOD-BYE
BUT, WHY IS SHE COMING HERE EVERY DAY?
SHE... SHE'S GONE...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU ARE SO COLD TO HARU...
IT ISN'T NICE!
I'M NOT COLD TO HER...
OKAY, YOU SHOWED YOUR COURAGE ONE TIME, BUT NOW YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO CLEAR YOUR MIND IF THIS CONTINUES
FLAP
THERE'S NOT MUCH OF A CHANCE YOU'LL SEE HER AGAIN, RIGHT?
IT'S BEEN THREE MONTHS SINCE SHINAKO DUMPED ME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WINTER — SHE HASN'T TRIED TO CONTACT ME EITHER I SUPPOSE THAT SHE MUST FEEL A BIT EMBARRASSED
UHM... I HAVEN'T CONTACTED HER SINCE THAT LAST TIME WE SPOKE...

HA HA HA
CLAC
SHE SAID THAT SHE WANTED US TO BE "FRIENDS" BUT SHE MAY HAVE NO INTENTION OF SEEING ME AGAIN...
THE DIPLOMA PRESENTATION CEREMONIES? THEY'VE ALREADY STARTED?
HOLD ON THEY'RE WEARING UNIFORMS FROM SHINAKO'S SCHOOL!
IN FACT ..
SHOULDN'T HARU HAVE FINISHED HIGH SCHOOL ALREADY?
TOC
EVERYONE FINISHED WELL THIS YEAR, AGAIN I WANT TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
THE ONLY THING LEFT IS THE END OF THE TRI-MESTER CEREMONY FOR THE OTHER STUDENTS

HM...?
EH... I FORGOT SOMETHING IN THE CLASSROOM
A THANK YOU BANQUET OF SORTS... YOU'RE INVITED AS WELL, MISS MORINOME
WE HAVE RESERVED A PLACE FOR THE TEACHERS OF THE GRADUATING STUDENTS FOR 6PM.
ART CLASSROOM

RUI!!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IT'S THE DAY OF THE CER-EMONIES ?
WHEN I SAW YOU EARLIER, I TOLD MYSELF IT WASN'T POSSIBLE BUT...
YOU'RE CHANGING SCHOOLS TOMORROW AREN'T YOU?
YOU, YOU'VE CHANGED, SHINAKO
YOU CUT YOUR HAIR?
IT'S NOT A PILE OF GARBAGE, THEY ARE OBJECTS!
WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT ALL THESE THINGS ARE READY FOR THE TRASH...
THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT! BUT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THIS ROOM WITH THAT PILE OF GARBAGE?

AH... THE WORLD IS TOO TIMID WHEN IT COMES TO ART...
WE TREAT IT LIKE GARBAGE.
IN ANY CASE, THEY WILL HAVE TO BE REMOVED...
BEFORE ANY OF THE OTHER TEACHERS COME BACK...
THERE'S A BROKEN TABLE, AN OUTDATED MANUAL, A FORGOTTEN UMBRELLA AND A TORN CURTAIN ...
THE CHOSEN THEME IS "END OF STUDIES"
YOU DON'T FIND ALL THIS A BIT TOO ACADEMIC? LOOK, MAYBE IT'S A BIT TOO SYMMETRICAL?
YOU'LL BE IN YOUR FINAL YEAR?
BAH, I ALREADY TOLD YOU! MY FATHER WAS TRANSFERRED HERE
BUT, WHY AREN'T YOU, MY TEACHER?
CLAC
DON'T SAY STUPID THINGS! DON'T THINK THAT EVERYTHING WILL HAPPEN THE WAY YOU WANT IT TO.
PROBABLY, IF I CAN'T DIRECTLY ENROLL INTO UNIVERSITY...
I WAS THINKING THAT IF I FAILED THE ENTRANCE EXAMS, I WOULD STILL MOVE TO TOKYO...
PLAF
QUITE FRANKLY...
WHY DID YOU COME TO TOKYO?

YOU'LL COME TO THE HOUSE TODAY?
WE'VE FINALLY FINISHED MOVING, AND MY FATHER WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU AS WELL
NOT TODAY! I'M GOING OUT WITH THE OTHER TEACHERS
BUT, IF YOU HAD STAYED IN KANAZAWA...
I WOULD HAVE STAYED THERE TOO..
YOU HAVE TO ADDRESS ME AS MISS MORINOME HERE
YOU WEAR MAKE-UP NOW! IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOU AT ALL...
PLAF
I DETEST ADULTS
ADULTS ALSO HAVE THINGS TO DO...
SO.. SAY HELLO TO YOUR FATHER FOR ME WHEN YOU GET HOME
THAT'LL BE BORING DON'T YOU THINK?
COME TO OUR PLACE INSTEAD!

UM, I'M GOING TO LEAVE.
WHAT... YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?
SO, LET'S HAVE A PRIVATE PARTY NOW?
TOO BAD...
THANKS, GOOD NIGHT!!
TAKE CARE!
WELL... THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS HAVE ALREADY BUDDED...

I DON'T LIKE THE CHERRY BLOSSOM SEASON..
MOZUMI.. WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM SINCE THEN?

AND THAT WAY YOU'LL GET RID OF ALL YOUR EXCESS ENERGY AND GO TO BED RIGHT AWAY. THAT'S THE SECRET TO NOT GETTING DEPRESSED.
AREN'T YOU GOING TO RIDE ON YOUR BIKE?
BAH. IT'S NICE RIGHT NOW, SO I THINK IT'D BE GOOD TO WALK.
YOU'RE RIGHT!
THERE ARE BLOSSOMS...! CHERRY TREES...?

AFTER SHINAKO DUMPED ME, I WAS WAITING FOR SOMETHING TO CHANGE IN ME...
BUT, I STILL CAN'T GIVE UP ON HER, AND I STILL HAVE THE BLUES
IT'S THE RETURN OF SPRING...
I REALLY HAVE TO ADMIT THAT I HAVEN'T PROGRESSED VERY MUCH
POOR ME !
UOZUMI !
TAP
AND I AM ALWAYS THE SAME

EH!
IT'S BEEN AWHILE!
WHAT A SUPRISE!
SHINAKO!...
TODAY WAS THE DIPLOMA PRESENTATION CEREMONY. ALL OF THE TEACHERS WENT OUT AFTERWARDS AND NOW I'M ON MY WAY HOME.
YOU TOO?
EH- YES
WILL YOU ACCOMPANY ME?

YOU, YOU HAD...
YOUR HAIR CUT ...
YES, I FEEL LIGHTER LIKE THIS ...
DOES IT LOOK ODD TO YOU?
YOU AREN'T ON YOUR BIKE TODAY...
HMM ...
UMM... NO...
NO...
UMM...
SILENCE ...
SILENCE ...

UMM... YOU KNOW...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT I TOLD YOU THE OTHER DAY, OKAY...
SHIT, MAYBE THAT WAS A BIT TOO DIRECT...
HE/SHE IS UNCOMFORT-ABLE...
QUICK I NEED A CONVERSATION TOPIC
AHH... YES...
UMM...
...UMM...
LISTEN... UOZUMI...
THE AMBIANCE GETS HEAVIER...

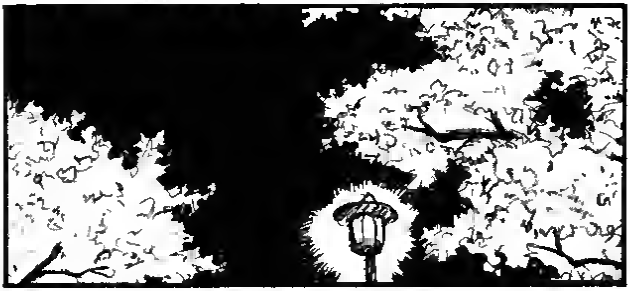
BUT ... ABOUT ME ...
I HAVEN'T ... I HAVEN'T YET...
UMM... IF I TOLD YOU NO...
IT'S NOT BECAUSE I DONT LIKE YOU...
...
I THINK IT'S BETTER IF I WALK BY MYSELF..
UM..
...?
EXCUSE ME..
IT'S NOTHING

DIDN'T YOU ASK ME TO GO WITH YOU?
SHINAKO! WAIT!
HEY.
WHAT A BAD PLAYER!
DARN!
POC

ONE, TWO...
TOP TOP
I'LL HAVE TO FIND SOMETHING TO CALM MY NERVES...
SHLAC
HUH?
DOM
OUCH!!
I DON'T SEE ANYONE..
OUCH...
WHAT... WHAT HAPPENED? ARE YOU OKAY?
SOMETHING HIT ME ...

end of scene 1

SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: JENIAM
EDITOR: CRAZEDOVER
PROOF-READERS: AIKOUKA AND MISAO_CHAN #MANGAREADERS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET



SCENE 2

...
AND 20.
THAT MAKES 100.
THERE YOU GO!
THANKS A LOT!
NICO
AFTER A LONG PERIOD OF SILENCE, I SAW SHINAKO AGAIN THAT NIGHT... AND SINCE THEN, NO NEWS
WHAT WAS SHE...
TRYING TO TELL ME THAT NIGHT?

WOOOW!
HE HE
THIS BABE IS REALLY GREAT!
ISN'T IT!
WOOOW, NOT BAD!
HEY, TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!!
KINOSHITA, CAN YOU COME TO THE CASH REGISTER, PLEASE?
WELL, WHAT BAD TASTE...
WELL... I DON'T THINK SHE'S BAD.
YOU'RE NOT TOO FUSSY, ARE YOU?
HMM... I PREFER THAT ONE!!
HARU!
AHH!

IT'S BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ONE AT THE REGISTER!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU'RE BEING RUDE TO A CUSTOMER?
IT'S FORBIDDEN TO COME IN HERE!
NICO²
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
HELLO! IT'S HARU, THE ONE THAT IS EVERYWHERE!
SURPRISE!
THE ONE THEY CALL HARU WITH VELVET PAWS!
IF THAT'S THE CASE, BUY SOMETHING FROM TIME TO TIME!
UMM, I'M JUST A BIT BROKE THIS MONTH!
BYE, SEE YOU LATER!
AND SO THE BEAUTIFUL AND POOR HARU MUST LEAVE YOU TO GO TO WORK...
IT MAY BE THAT SHE WORKS IN ONE OF THOSE BARS THAT SHINAKO TOLD ME ABOUT..
NICO²
UMM... I DON'T KNOW!
CO²
WHAT DOES HARU DO FOR WORK?

GOOD EVENING MR. MASA! IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HASN'T IT?
A BAR!!?
EH!
IT MAY BE THAT SHE ..IS MISTAKEN ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HARU AND ME ..
SHINAKO .. MAY STILL FEEL RESPONSIBLE BECAUSE HARU QUIT SCHOOL
WHAT AM I THINKING ABOUT!..
HMMM
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
NICO²
...
...BAH, I DON'T THINK THAT'S THE REASON...
IT REALLY LOOKS GOOD ON HER...
ABOUT HER SHORT HAIR...
I HAVEN'T...
I HAVEN'T YET...
BUT...
WHAT CONCERNS ME IS...

THE CLASS MEETING IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.
CHEMISTRY ROOM
I ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT YOU HAVE TO GO!
AND YOU, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO?
NO, I'M THE HOMEROOM TEACHER'S ASSISTANT...
IN ANY CASE, YOU HAVE TO GO!
EVEN IF WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE CHILDHOOD, REMEMBER THAT HERE WE ARE TEACHER AND STUDENT!
OKAY, OKAY...
ACTUALLY, RUI...
BY CHANCE, WOULD THIS BE YOURS?

WHEN I SAW YOU WALKING WITH A GUY I DIDN'T KNOW... YOU SEEMED TO GET ALONG WELL...
NOT AT ALL! IT JUST HAPPENED THAT I WAS AT A STORE FLIPPING THROUGH A MAGAZINE..
UMM.. I DON'T KNOW
DON'T PLAY DUMB! APART FROM YOU, I DON'T KNOW MANY PEOPLE CAPABLE OF THROWING THIS TYPE OF THING!
YOU FOLLOWED ME THE OTHER NIGHT?
NO, YOU'RE WRONG!
IT'S JUST AN OLD FRIEND FROM THE FACULTY!
I HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT I'VE SEEN HIM SOMEWHERE BEFORE..
ISN'T HE WORKING AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD CORNER STORE?
YOU... CAME BACK TO TOKYO..
FOR HIM?

APART FROM MY BROTHER, I WON'T ACCEPT ANYONE...
... ME... I DON'T WANT TO...

NO! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
GO, GET TO CLASS QUICKLY!

HAYAKAWA!!? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

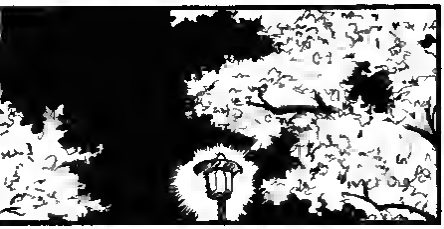
IT'S DONE!
IS THERE A PROBLEM?
NO.. NOTHING SPECIAL..
HE CAME TO TOKYO TO FIND YOU, DIDN'T HE?
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?
HE SIMPLY FOLLOWED HIS FATHER!
SINCE WE DON'T HEAR YOU TALK ABOUT THIS TYPE OF THING OFTEN, I'M TEASING YOU A BIT..
HE'S ONE OF YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, I BELIEVE?
YES.. OUR HOUSES WERE BESIDE EACH OTHER..
SAY, YOU DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND?

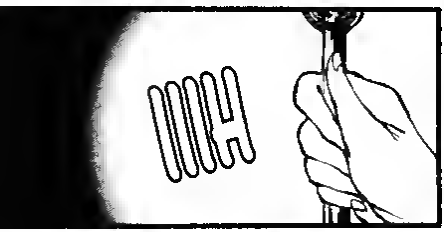
NO, I DON'T HAVE ANYONE...
THAT SILENCE WAS LONG... IT MAKES ME WANT TO KNOW MORE...!!
OH, WELL..
WE'LL HAVE TO GO FOR A DRINK TOGETHER ONE OF THESE DAYS!
HA! HA! HA!

MILK HALL
THE AMBIANCE ISN'T BAD HERE, IS IT?
IT'S A CAFÉ BY DAY AND A BAR AT NIGHT
AHHH...
WE'LL BRING THE OTHERS NEXT TIME!

WELL, KANSUKE, I HAVE TO GO I'LL BE DONE AT TEN
HARU!
CROAA
TOC
TOC
THEY SAY THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF VITAMINS IN SARDINES .
AND BIRDS NEED VITAMINS TOO, DON'T THEY?

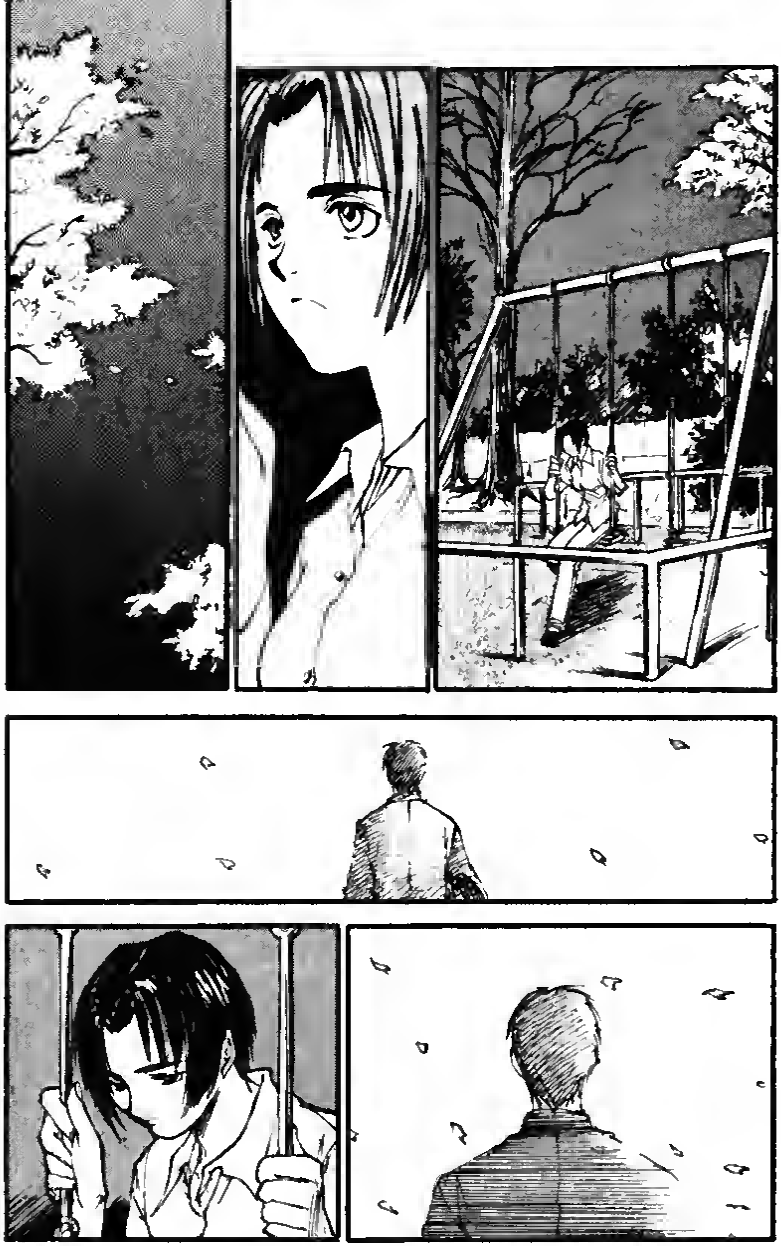
NICO² MART




UUUH

I'M LEAVING FIRST, SEE YOU LATER!
OKAY... TAKE CARE!

AAAAH



SHINAKO?
NOTHING, YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS HOUR?
IT'S ON MY WAY. I DON'T LIVE FAR FROM HERE
AH... YES.. IT'S TRUE. I FORGOT.

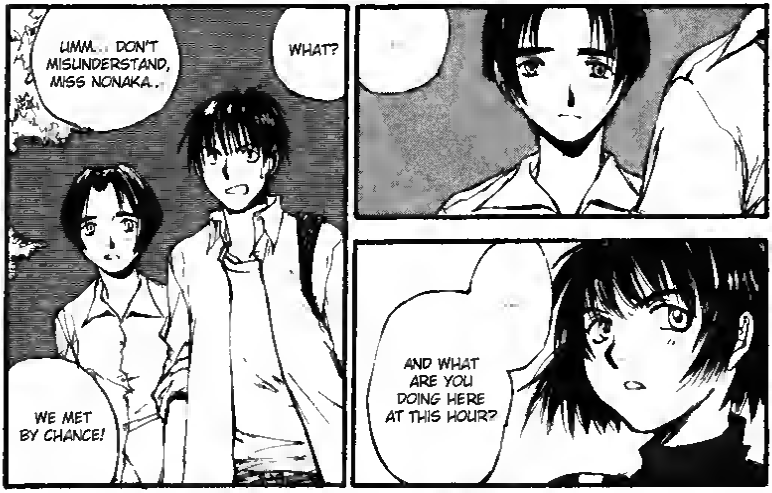
YES..
I WAS LOOKING AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS ..
WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU LOOKED OUT OF IT..
OH?
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I COULDN'T FALL ASLEEP..
AND WHILE WANDERING, I NOTICED THAT THE CHERRY TREES WERE IN BLOOM..
I DON'T REALLY LIKE THE FLOWERS .. BUT..
THEY ARE PRETTY, AREN'T THEY?

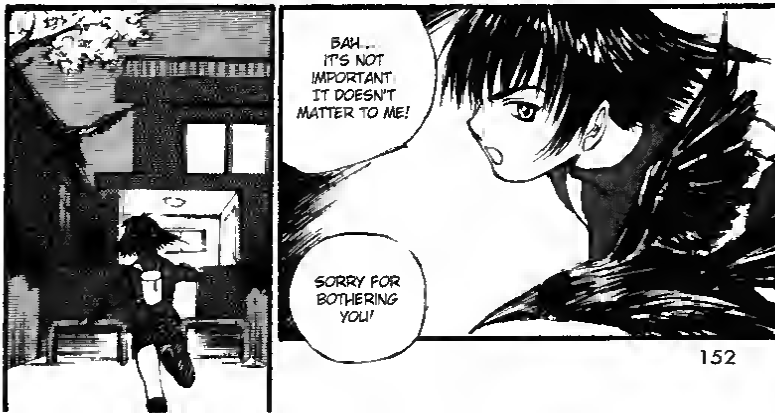
IT'S ALREADY BEEN A YEAR SINCE WE FINISHED OUR STUDIES
... TIME PASSES BY SO QUICKLY...
IT'S TRUE...
...
YES...
IT DEPRESSES ME
PEOPLE PUT SO MUCH TIME INTO CHANGING BUT TIME IT PASSES SLOWLY...

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME SEEMING TO ADVANCE
I ALWAYS FIND MYSELF AT THE SAME SPOT!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ...?
YOU ALWAYS SEE THE POSITIVE SIDE OF THINGS, YET...
WHAT YOU JUST SAID IS CLOSER TO THE WAY PEOPLE LIKE ME THINK... PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT TRYING TO PROGRESS
I'M NOT POSITIVE AT ALL...
HAHAHA! HOZUMI, YOU MISJUDGE OTHERS A LOT
...
IF I ASKED HER NOW, MAYBE SHE'D ANSWER...
WHAT SHE WANTED TO TELL ME THE OTHER TIME...

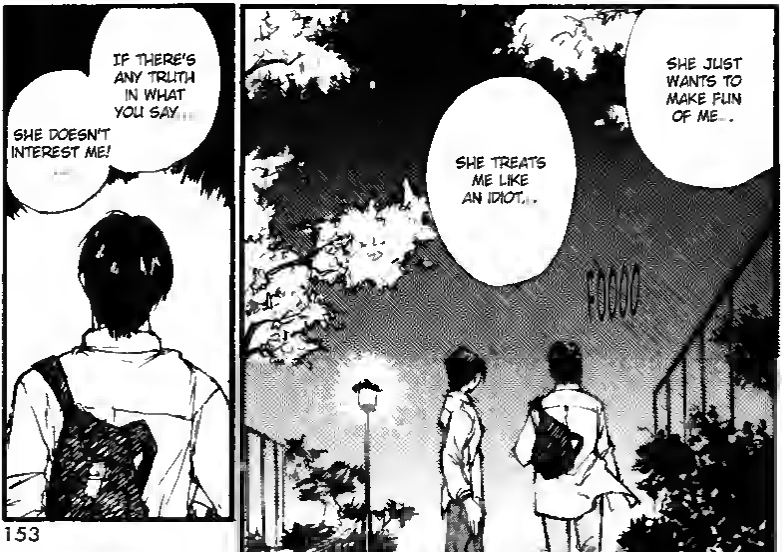
SHINAKO.. THE OTHER DAY...
UMM..
CROAA
YES?
WHAT..
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT THIS HOUR?
HARU!
...

I AM...
A HOSTESS AT A BAR..
I PASS BY HERE TO GO HOME
THIS IS WHEN I GET OUT OF WORK!


UMM... DON'T MISUNDERSTAND, MISS NONAKA..
WHAT?
WE MET BY CHANCE!
AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS HOUR?


BAH.. IT'S NOT IMPORTANT IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME!
SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU!

WE WEREN'T VERY NICE TO HER, WERE WE?
...
IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT FOR HER?
BAH, I HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT GIRL!


IF THERE'S ANY TRUTH IN WHAT YOU SAY...
SHE DOESN'T INTEREST ME!
SHE JUST WANTS TO MAKE FUN OF ME...
SHE TREATS ME LIKE AN IDIOT...
FOOOO

I FEEL LIKE STAYING HERE FOR A WHILE LONGER...
UMM... I... I THINK THAT...
IT'S OKAY.. I'M NOT FAR FROM HOME.
IT'S NOT WORTH THE TROUBLE
REALLY... DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME...
OH OKAY! DON'T YOU HAVE TO GET UP EARLY TOMORROW?
WELL... I CAN STAY WITH YOU
WHAT'S WITH YOU?

I KNOW IT ISN'T GOOD, BUT...
I DON'T KNOW... HOW TO HANDLE IT...
ACTUALLY, THIS SITUATION ISN'T BAD ..
I THINK IT'S A BIT EGOTISTICAL, BUT... I DON'T WANT YOU TO STOP BEING MY FRIEND
BECAUSE YOU ARE THE ONLY GUY WITH WHOM I CAN TALK FRANKLY...
IF... YOU THINK THAT WE'RE "A PROMISING RELATIONSHIP" ..
I'D LIKE YOU TO ONLY CONSIDER ME AS A FRIEND...
AND WE CAN CONTINUE OUR RELATIONSHIP AS BEFORE...
LIKE WHEN WE COULD LAUGH ABOUT ORDINARY THINGS ..
DO YOU.. DO YOU THINK IT'S POSSIBLE?

I'M SORRY...

NO...

I'M SURE..
THAT IT'LL BE FINE FOR ME...
GOOD, SO..

YES..
GOOD NIGHT!

...
I'LL TRY MY BEST...

SHE'S ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE FROM ME!
I... COULDN'T EVEN TELL HER THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE
I FEEL LIKE A KID...
I CANNOT SEE HER LIKE THAT ANYMORE!!
I NEVER CRIED FOR IT, BUT I NEVER GAVE UP ON IT EITHER.
IT REMINDS ME OF WHEN I WAS LITTLE AND I COULDN'T HAVE A FIGURINE THAT I WANTED!!
I KEPT THE DESIRE DEEP WITHIN ME...
WHEN SHE'S IN FRONT OF ME THE SAME FEELINGS COME BACK TO MY HEART!!
AND A DAY CAME WHEN I DIDN'T THINK OF IT ANYMORE.
WITH THIS TOO, MAYBE I'LL HAVE A DAY LIKE THAT..

THIS WILL ONLY BE A BAD MOMENT TO GO THROUGH
TAC

SCHLURP
...
DON'T MIS-UNDERSTAND, MISS NONAKA
...

STOP PECKING AT ME...
TOC TOC
OUCH!
...
I SHOULD DO THE SAME THING...

SCENE 3

INANE
#MANGAREADERS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET
SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: THE_RED_A
EDITOR: CRAZEDOVER
PROOFERS: AIKOUKA & MISAO_CHAN

ART CLUB
HAYAKAWA
NO...
I AM NOT A MEMBER OF THE ART CLUB!
IT DOESN'T MATTER...
DO YOU WANT ME TO GET YOU SOME TEA?

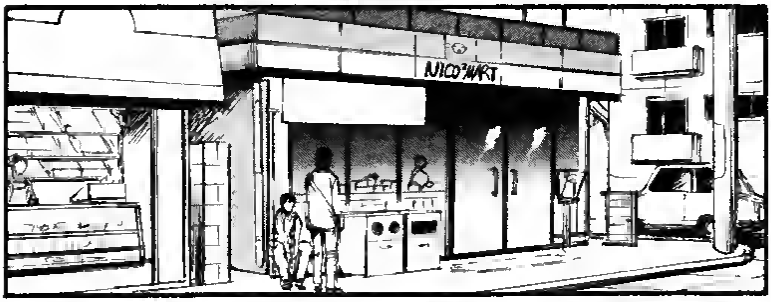
CAN YOU BE A BIT QUIETER? IT'S DISTRACTING ME!
UMM, HAYAKAWA...
DO YOU..
HAYAKAWA, YOU.
DO YOU HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?
NO!
HMM...
BYE!
BYE, SENSEI!

HI!
LISTEN, I ALREADY TOLD YOU...
THAT HERE, I AM A TEACHER AND YOU ARE A STUDENT...
SO BEHAVE IF YOU DON'T WANT GOSSIP TO SPREAD!
YOU HAVE TO STOP COMING HERE EVERYDAY...
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU THEN WE'LL LEAVE TOGETHER
I AM NOT LEAVING!
WHY ARE YOU SO DISTANT?

LIKE MEETING THAT GUY?
SOMETIMES, ADULTS HAVE OTHER THINGS TO DO...
THAT'S WHY!
BUT THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WON'T EVEN VISIT MY HOME!
I DON'T CARE. THE ANGRIER YOU GET, THE MORE I THINK YOU ARE HIDING SOMETHING...
HEY! I ALREADY TOLD YOU WE MET BY CHANCE...
YOU WANT TO FORGET...
I HAVE NO IDEA...
SEE YOU!
WHAT HAPPENED AT KANAZAWA?

HMM...
NO...
THAT'S NOT IT...
YOU DISTANCE YOURSELF FROM ME, YOU DON'T COME HOME...
DO YOU THINK I CAN FORGET HIM?
AND YOU CAME BACK TO TOKYO .. IT'S BECAUSE YOU WANT TO FORGET HIM, ISN'T IT?

BLAM
CLAC
I'LL VISIT YOU DURING THE HOLIDAYS!
I PROMISE!


NICO'MART

IT MAKES ME SAD... HARU DOESN'T LIKE YOU ANYMORE?
...
HARU... SHE'S NOT COMING TODAY?
SO MUCH THE BETTER! IT'S QUIETER!

YES?
KINOSHITA?
...
DO YOU THINK A FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN IS POSSIBLE?
HICO2
HMM. I'M NOT SAYING IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
BUT, IT'S VERY COMPLICATED!
WELL, SEE.
WELL, THAT'S A QUESTION NOBODY CAN ANSWER!
YEAH, I GUESS.

MAYBE A PERSON MORE MATURE THAN I COULD DO IT...
I DON'T THINK I COULD PULL IT OFF...
HMM... IF A GIRL ASKED ME TO BE JUST A FRIEND,
HUH. WELL...
THE OPTION OF BECOMING A BOYFRIEND IS OUT
BUT IF SOMEONE IS JUST A FRIEND...
IF YOU CAN KEEP YOUR COOL WHILE LIVING IN SUCH A SITUATION, I WOULD SAY YOU REALLY ARE AN ADULT...
YOU WOULD HAVE TO BECOME HIS FRIEND
THAT MEANS THAT WHEN SHE FINDS A BOYFRIEND...

WELL, SINCE YOU'RE ASKING ME ALL OF A SUDDEN... I DON'T REALLY HAVE A CHOICE ..
I AM JUST GOING TO CONTINUE BEING HER FRIEND...
ARE YOU IN THAT SITUATION?
NICO2
I THINK THAT WOULD BE VERY DISRESPECTFUL TO HER .. DON'T YOU?
IF YOU DON'T HAVE A ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP AND CAN'T KEEP A FRIENDLY ONE...
I AM STILL IN DENIAL
AM I WRONG?
I ALREADY TOLD YOU! I RESPECT HER A LOT!
I DON'T WANT TO RUIN OUR RELATIONSHIP BECAUSE OF ADOLESCENT FEELINGS ..
THAT'S NOT TRUE!

UMM... HELLO
YOUR DETERMINATION ... IS HONORABLE
NO...
PLAFF
YOU ARE UOZUMI, RIGHT?
PIP
I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU A PERSONAL QUESTION...
WHAT DOES SHINAKO MEAN TO YOU?

BYE!
BYE!
MISS SHINAKO!

I WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO YOU...
CAN I OFFER YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK?
NO... MISS NONAKA!
PHEW... I THOUGHT I WAS HAVING A HEART ATTACK!
DON'T YOU THINK SO?
IS THIS PLACE OKAY? THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS ARE MAGNIFICENT.
...

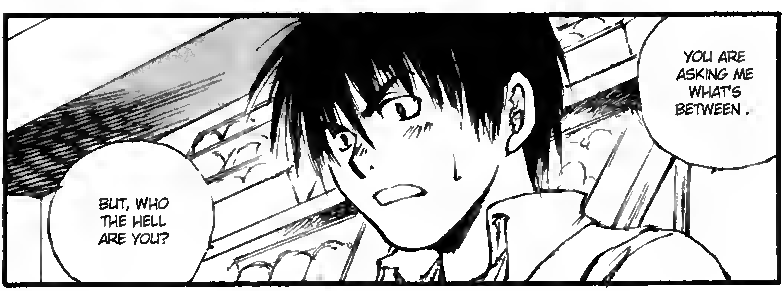
PSH
ASAHI BREWERIES
ASAHI
DRAFT BEER
HEHE! KANPAI!
I MAY HAVE WORKED IN A BAR...
BUT I DIDN'T DRINK ANY ALCOHOL, REALLY!
EH!
DO YOU THINK... THAT A MINOR SHOULD NOT DRINK?
ERR.. NO...
I DON'T GO TO HIGH SCHOOL ANYMORE!

LOUP
LOUP
BUT... WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?
WELL...
ANYWAY, IT'S NO USE TALKING ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW. BESIDES, NOBODY BELIEVES ME...
SAY...
I BELIEVE YOU!
BUT I DON'T CARE!
SENSEI...
DON'T YOU WANT TO PARTY WITH ME?

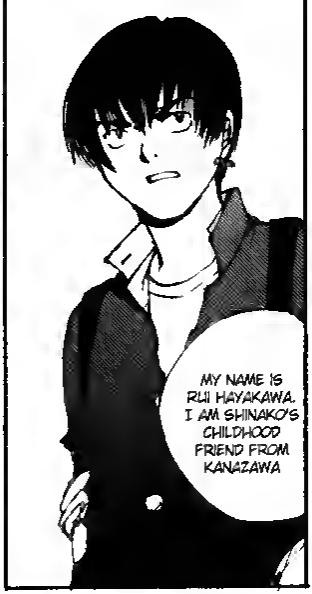
HUH?
NICO

ANSWER ME HONESTLY...
WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HER?

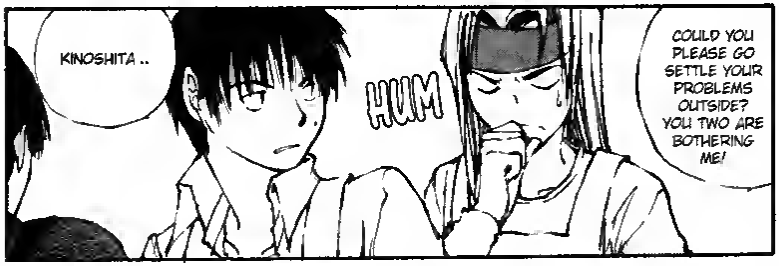
NICO
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "HUH"? SHINAKO MORINOME, YOU KNOW HER, RIGHT?

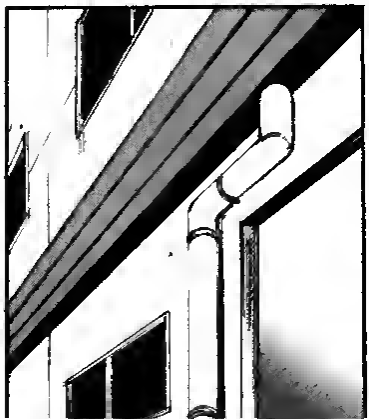

YOU ARE ASKING ME WHAT'S BETWEEN .
BUT, WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

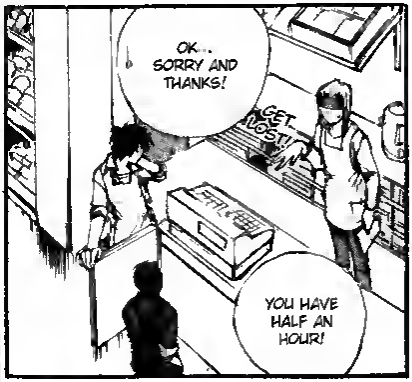
A CHILDHOOD FRIEND?
A FRIEND


MY NAME IS RUI HAYAKAWA. I AM SHINAKO'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND FROM KANAZAWA

ARE YOU THAT DENSE?
I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT..


KINOSHITA ..
HUM
COULD YOU PLEASE GO SETTLE YOUR PROBLEMS OUTSIDE? YOU TWO ARE BOTHERING ME!




OK... SORRY AND THANKS!
GET LOST!
YOU HAVE HALF AN HOUR!

STAY AWAY FROM SHINAKO!
WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO TELL ME, YOUNG MAN?
SO...
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU ARE REALLY HER FRIEND FROM COLLEGE...
WHAT?
BUT I WON'T LET SHINAKO GO OUT WITH A GUY WHO IS STUCK IN A DEAD-END JOB LIKE YOU!

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HER?
WE WERE NEIGHBOURS
I HAVE KNOWN HER SINCE SHE WAS A KID ..
AND WHAT DOES "MY ENEMY" MEAN?
ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?
I CONSIDER YOU MY ENEMY!
AND I WANT TO KNOW MY ENEMY!
HOW IS THAT ANY OF YOUR BUSINESS?
ARE YOU SHINAKO'S PROTECTOR?
OF SHINAKO'S LIFE IN KANAZAWA .
I GUESS YOU KNOW NOTHING

HMM
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN HER PAST..
THEN... YOU KNOW NOTHING. THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT...
NOW, I UNDERSTAND YOUR RELATIONSHIP BETTER.. IT'S ALL NORMAL
...

WHAT HAPPENED IN KANAZAWA?
I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU ANYTHING!
WAIT! THIS IS NOT FAIR..
YOU JUST SAID
THAT YOU NEEDED TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOUR ENEMY...
!

END OF SCENE 3

NICO² MART

#MANGAREADERS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET
SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: SLIJIVO
EDITOR: CRAZEDOVER
PROOFERS: AIKOUKA & MISAO_CHAN

DO YOU WANT TO PLAY WITH ME?
PLAY..

THERE'S NOTHING BETWEEN UOZUMI AND ME
LISTEN, MISS NONAKA, YOU'RE MISTAKEN ABOUT THIS SITUATION .. IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK...
UHH...
YEP! TO FIND OUT WHO AMONG US WILL CATCH THE FISH
I KNOW ..
BUT...
RIKUO STILL LOVES YOU
IT MAY BE TRUE THAT YOU DON'T FEEL ANYTHING FOR HIM...
BUT, IF WE LEAVE HIM LIKE THIS, HE'LL NEVER LET YOU GO...
AS LONG AS YOU STAY BY HIS SIDE

FOR ME, THERE WILL NEVER BE ANYTHING ELSE OTHER THAN FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN US
SO THERE IS NO WORRY
IT'S NOT FAIR TO BE ONLY FRIENDS!
WHEN WE'VE GOT IT RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES!
WE ALWAYS ATTACH MORE IMPORTANCE TO WHAT WE CAN'T GET..
I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD COMPROMISE
IF, I CREATE SOME INTEREST IN RIKUO ..
THE COMPARISON IS COARSE, BUT...
DON'T YOU THINK SO?
IT'S AS IF YOU HAD FOOD IN FRONT OF YOU WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO TOUCH IT

IF I START A GAME WITH YOU AND IF I LOSE IT, I'LL BE ABLE TO DROP OUT
EVEN IF IT'S VERY HARD TO BEAR... VERY HARD...
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS
BUT I DON'T INTEND TO START A GAME WITH YOU
THEN, IF I ASK YOU...
NOT TO BE FRIENDS ANYMORE?
I'LL LEND YOU MY GAMEBOY!
YOU'LL KNOW LONELINESS!
NOOO! I DON'T WANT TO STAY HERE ALONE TO HOLD THE SPOT!
CHEER UP WHILE WE WAIT FOR THE OTHERS!
HERE IT IS! SATO LOST ONE MORE TIME!

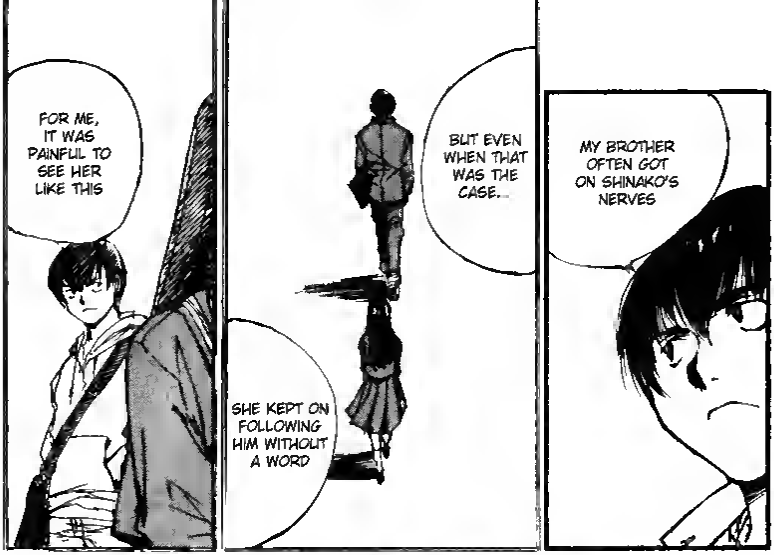
*IN SUMMER, PEOPLE MEET TO HAVE PICNICS UNDER CHERRY TREES. IT'S SO POPULAR YOU HAVE TO BOOK THE PLACES IN ADVANCE

WHY DID YOU DUMP RIKUO?
SENSEI?
WHY IS IT LIKE THIS? BECAUSE HE DOESN'T HAVE A GOOD JOB?
DOES IT MEAN THAT YOU ATTACH SOME IMPORTANCE TO RIKUO?
I SUPPOSE THAT. IT'S QUITE HARD TO KEEP ON BEING GOOD FRIENDS AFTER A SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP, ISN'T IT?
I THINK LOVE IS JUST AN ILLUSION, ISN'T IT?
I DON'T KNOW WHY .. WHEN I REALIZED IT, I ALREADY LOVED HIM
BUT WHEN YOU'VE TASTED IT, YOU CAN'T ESCAPE BEFORE IT GIVES YOU SOMETHING IN RETURN
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT...
AND YOU, WHY DO YOU LOVE UOZUMI?

I...
IN FACT...
THERE IS
A PERSON
I LOVE...
HAHA!
THAT'S
REALLY YOU
MISS NONAKA!
BUT...
HE'S NOT HERE
ANYMORE

YOUR REAL ENEMY?
LASTBOSS
*THE STRONGEST MONSTER IN DRAGON QUEST
HE'S INVINCIBLE
EVEN ME, I'M NOT SELF-CONFIDENT NEXT TO HIM.
HE'S REALLY STRONG
POWER LEVEL 5
EVACUATION OF THE BLACK HOLE
WHAT KIND OF GUY IS HE?
NICO
HE'S MY BROTHER!

HE DIED SIX YEARS AGO
HE WAS THE SAME AGE AS SHINAKO
MY BROTHER HAD A HEART DISEASE SINCE BIRTH
OUR MOTHER DIED WHEN WE WERE YOUNG SO THERE WAS NO WOMEN AT HOME ANYMORE
THEN, SHINAKO CAME OVER TO COOK
MY BROTHER AND SHINAKO WERE ALWAYS IN THE SAME SCHOOLS. THEY GOT ALONG WELL
WELL, IT WAS SHINAKO WHO TOOK CARE OF HIM


FOR ME, IT WAS PAINFUL TO SEE HER LIKE THIS
BUT EVEN WHEN THAT WAS THE CASE...
SHE KEPT ON FOLLOWING HIM WITHOUT A WORD
MY BROTHER OFTEN GOT ON SHINAKO'S NERVES

THEY UNDERSTOOD EACH OTHER, EVEN WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING
SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO UNDERSTOOD MY BROTHER
BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THEM

NICO 2

I COULD NEVER BE OPPOSED TO MY BROTHER

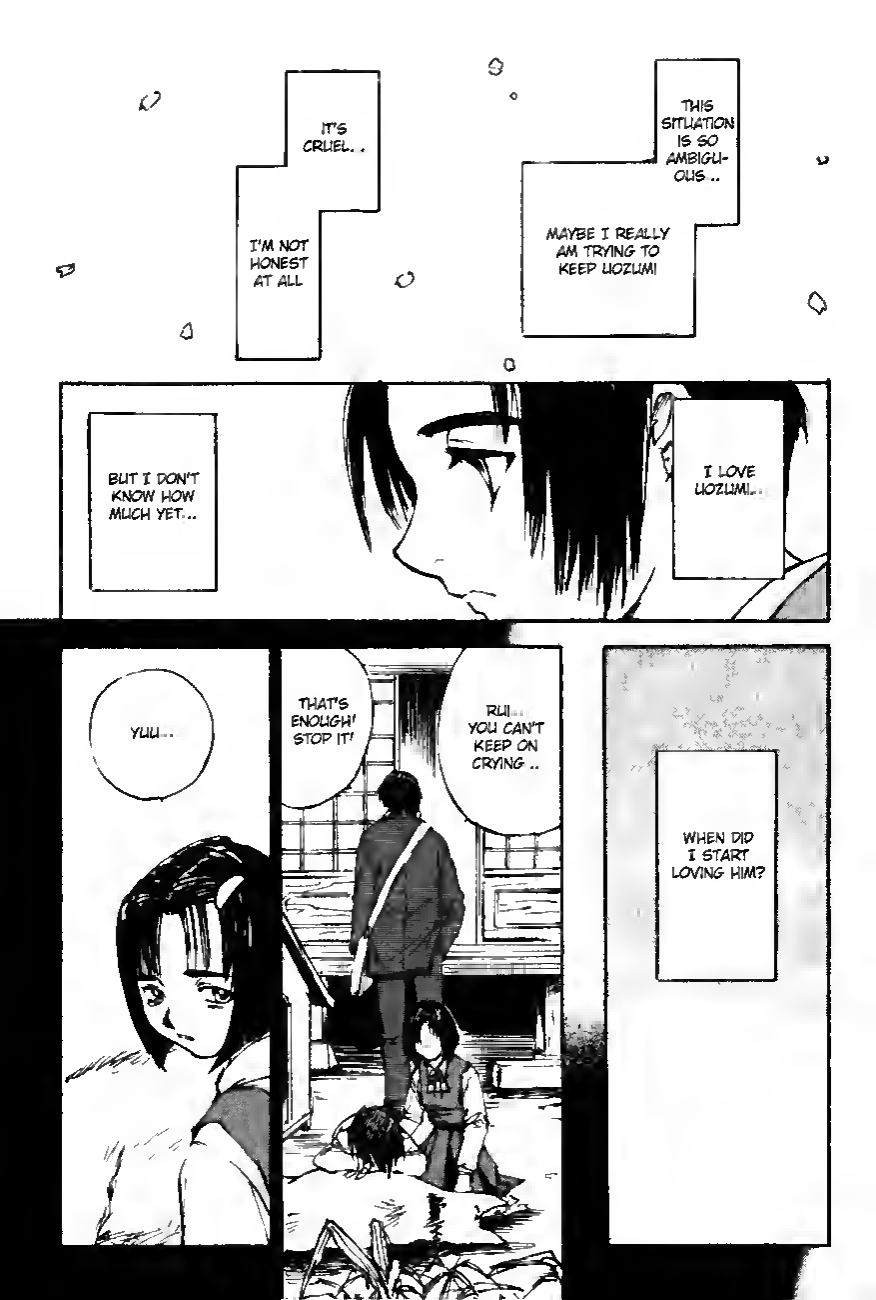
I CAN'T FORGET HIM
I THINK THAT... I'D LIKE TO BE ABLE TO DO THAT, BUT ..
SINCE HE WAS DEAD, I WAS CHERISHING AN ILLUSION
I COULDN'T GET WHAT I DESIRED
SCRATCH SCRATCH
SO I DON'T WANT..
TO LOVE ANYMORE. THAT IS DIFFICULT FOR ME

SO...
YOU DON'T NEED TO CONSIDER ME A THREAT
..
I THOUGHT... YOU WANTED TO KEEP RIKUO...
BUT YOU'RE NOT LIKE THAT
NOW IT'S CLEARER TO ME
WHAT... ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

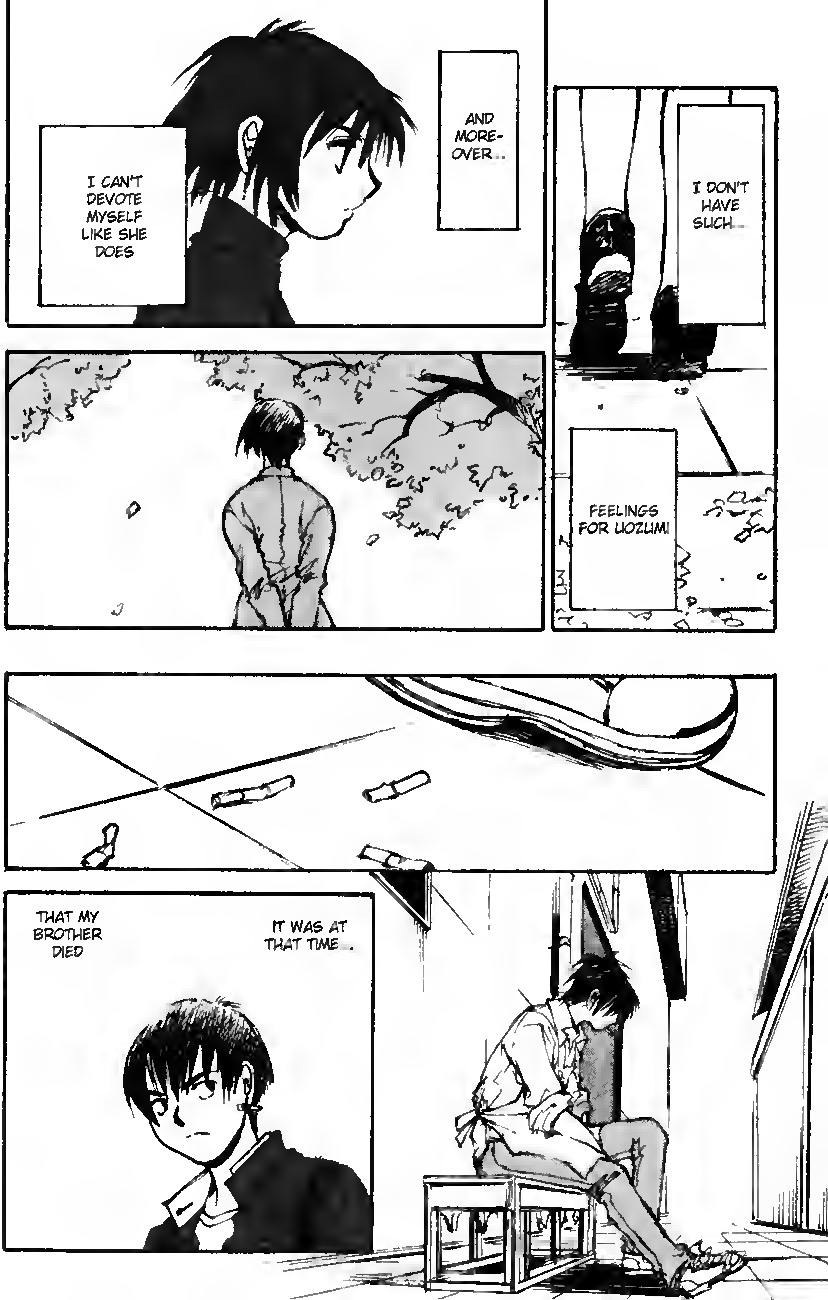
EVEN SO, I DECLARE WAR ON YOU!
WELL...
I'M LEAVING!
EVEN IF IT'S ONE SIDED, I DON'T LIKE TO SLIP OFF!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU!

THANK YOU FOR SPARING ME SOME TIME
WELL THEN, GOOD-BYE SENSEI!
OH .. I ALMOST FORGOT TO TELL YOU..
GREAT! I COULD TELL YOU WHAT WAS ON MY MIND!
I FEEL LIGHTER..
I DIDN'T LEAVE HIGH SCHOOL BECAUSE OF YOU!

TAP
TAP
TAP
I DON'T REFUSE AND I DON'T ACCEPT EITHER..
I EXPRESS ONLY WHAT SUITS ME..
SHE MAY BE RIGHT
IT'S NOT FAIR TO BE ONLY FRIENDS THAT'S WHAT SHE THINKS..


IT'S CRUEL..
I'M NOT HONEST AT ALL
THIS SITUATION IS SO AMBIGUOUS..
MAYBE I REALLY AM TRYING TO KEEP UOZUMI
BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH YET..
I LOVE UOZUMI..
YUU...
THAT'S ENOUGH! STOP IT!
RUI... YOU CAN'T KEEP ON CRYING..
WHEN DID I START LOVING HIM?

I THINK THAT SINCE HIS CHILDHOOD HE WAS LIVING WITH DEATH BY HIS SIDE...
IT WAS AT THAT TIME...
THAT I REALIZED IT...
WE LIVE BUT THERE'S ALSO DEATH... THAT'S LIFE!
IT'S VERY SIMPLE!
STOP CRYING!
IT WAS MORE SADDENING FOR HIM TO SEE OUR REACTIONS THAN TO BE EMOTIONAL ABOUT THE DOG'S DEATH...
IF HE COULD BECOME AS UNPLEASANT AS POSSIBLE... IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR OTHERS
BECAUSE HE THOUGHT THA...
HE WAS TOUGH WITH ALL THE PEOPLE WHO CARED FOR HIS HEALTH...
IT WASN'T PITY...
THAT'S WHY I STARTED LOVING HIM...
THAT MAY BE THE REASON WHY... I DIDN'T CRY AT HIS FUNERAL


I CAN'T DEVOTE MYSELF LIKE SHE DOES
AND MORE-OVER..
I DON'T HAVE SUCH...
FEELINGS FOR UOZUMI
THAT MY BROTHER DIED
IT WAS AT THAT TIME..

I WAS LOOKING AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS..
I ALWAYS RETURN TO THE SAME PLACE...
THE EVENING AFTER HE DIED...
SHINAKO KEPT ON STARING AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS UNTIL LATE IN THE NIGHT...
AND EVERY YEAR WHEN THEY'RE BACK, SHE REMEMBERS HIM

...
WHAT IS THIS . DID THAT CHILD TELL YOU UNPLEASANT THINGS?
WHAT A FACE .
YOU DIDN'T EVEN LIGHT YOUR CIGARETTE!
HUH?
HEY! YO! STOP CHATTING!
KINOSHITA.. CAN I LEAVE WORK EARLY TODAY?
WHAT?
HUH! UOZUMI!
NICO²

#MANGAREADERS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET
SCANNER: ALIERA
TRANSLATOR: THE_RED_A
EDITOR: CRAZEDOVER
PROOFERS: AIKOUKA AND MISAO_CHAN

Scene 5

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO IF I SEE HER? WILL I BE ABLE TO TALK TO HER?
SHINAKO IS STILL AT SCHOOL

HOZUMI?

TODAY
YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIEND CAME TO SEE ME
ARE YOU ALRIGHT? WHAT HAPPENED?
OH, NOTHING
HE TOLD ME OF...
WHAT HAPPENED AT KANAZAWA
I'M SORRY. HE THINKS THAT THERE IS SOMETHING GOING ON BETWEEN US
HE TOLD YOU WEIRD THINGS, DIDN'T HE?

SCRATCH SCRATCH
SORRY, I NEED TO GO BACK INSIDE TO CALM DOWN..
WHAT THE HELL AM I SAYING?
I'M SORRY ABOUT NOT TELLING YOU ALL OF THIS... I DIDN'T MEAN TO HIDE IT...
I DON'T THINK THAT CHANGES MUCH...
I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY ANYWAY...
HMMM... I CAME HERE WITHOUT ANY REASON. REALLY...
BUT.. I COULDN'T TELL YOU
BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO MAKE IT AN EXCUSE

I'M AN IDIOT
I STILL CAN'T FORGET THE PAST...
HMM .. YES...
I WANTED TO TELL YOU..
I MEAN, I DON'T WANT TO BE JUST A "FRIEND" ANYMORE...
BECAUSE
IT'S NOT FAIR THAT ONLY ONE OF US IS TRYING...
OKAY

I THINK SO TOO
I CAN'T BE JUST YOUR "FRIEND"...
I TRIED TO
BUT I COULDN'T DO IT...
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO DO ANYMORE...
YOU NEED TO KNOW...
THAT UNTIL NOW, ALL I DID WAS PRETEND TO BE JUST A FRIEND
BUT I WAS ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT BEING MORE...
AND THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU WANT!

WELL...
IN THAT CASE...
IT'S NOT IMPORTANT. DON'T WORRY
I WOULD RATHER WAIT
THAN TRY TO BE MORE THAN JUST FRIENDS
FLOU
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
I AM DISGUSTED WITH MYSELF
...
BUT I FEEL RELIEVED

I NEED TO GO BACK TO THE SHOP...
OH, I FORGOT MY BAG...
KINOSHITA MUST BE FURIOUS

OH?!
THE DESERTER IS BACK...
SO UOZUMI, IT SEEMS A RIVAL JUST SHOWED UP?
KINOSHITA!!
EXCUSE ME, WHO ARE YOU?
OUSTE
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
HOW DARE YOU SAY THAT?
THE MANAGER AND I CAN HANDLE IT!
IT'S ALRIGHT FOR TODAY...

PLIC
SORRY, AND THANKS AGAIN...
I'M LEAVING
TAP TAP TAP TAP
WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?
WELL, WE ARE GOING IN THE SAME DIRECTION!
HEY, IT'S STARTING TO RAIN!
TAP TAP

IT'S INTERESTING NEVERTHELESS
TODAY...
I WENT TO SEE MS. SHINAKO
WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?
TELL ME WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED TODAY!
COME ON
Y...YOU TALKED TO SHINAKO?
YES, ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS!

SAY...
I'VE WANTED TO SAY THIS FOR A LONG TIME
I AM NOT THE GUY YOU THINK I AM...
I EVEN CHALLENGED HER!
ONCE THAT WAS DONE, WE DIDN'T HAVE TO PRETEND. RIGHT?
YOU CLEARLY SAID THAT LOVE IS BUT AN ILLUSION...
I THINK YOU THINK TOO MUCH OF ME
WE MAY HAVE MET BEFORE, A LONG TIME AGO...
BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY ARE YOU SO INVOLVED!

OPEN YOUR EYES, A GUY LIKE ME IS NOT FOR YOU
I THINK YOU WILL GET TO MEET A LOT OF GOOD GUYS WILLING TO LOVE YOU...
...
I CAN'T SAY THAT I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING FOR YOU
BUT I DON'T THINK I CAN LOVE YOU...
TAKE RIGHT NOW. IN MY HEAD, I AM NOT CAPABLE OF SUCH A THING
I KNOW RIKUO,
THAT YOU HAVE A LOT OF THINGS TO THINK ABOUT
ABOUT YOURSELF AND MISS SHINAKO
I KNOW QUITE WELL WHERE I STAND!

I'M LIKE A RUNNER WHO STARTED RUNNING LATE...
HUH?
IT MEANS THAT I ALREADY LOST FROM THE START!
LISTEN... I KNOW THAT YOU THINK I AM WEIRD BUT...
I'M NOT DELUDED ABOUT YOU, AND I DON'T IDEALIZE YOU LIKE YOU SEEM TO THINK...
BECAUSE YOU ARE LIKE I SEE YOU...
THAT IS WHY I DON'T CARE WHO YOU LIKE. THAT DOESN'T CONCERN ME

I'M NOT ASKING FOR ANYTHING FROM YOU RIKUO!
WELL
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO LOVE ME ONE DAY...
BUT FOR NOW...
I AM HAPPY THAT THINGS ARE THE WAY THEY ARE...
SO, THIS IS FINE
IT IS MUCH BETTER THAN GIVING UP!
ISN'T THAT WEIRD?

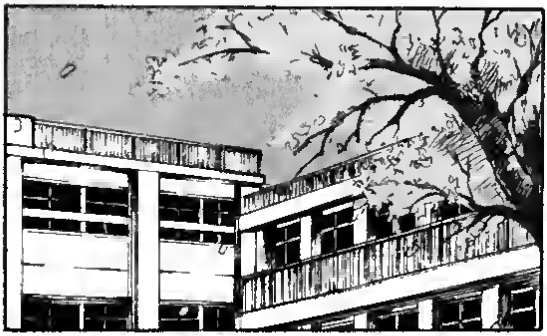
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT...
WE ARE BOTH GOING TO TRY OUR BEST...
BECAUSE I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, YET THERE IS NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT...
IT BOTH-ERS ME

WHAT IS LOVE?
RIKUO...

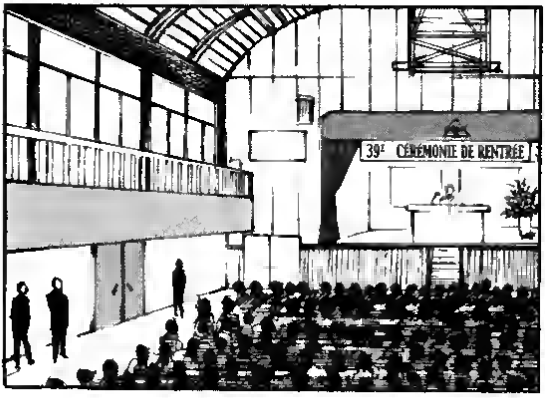
YOU'RE FINE WITH THAT?

FLAP
PIII
NOT MUCH ELSE I CAN DO
I'M GONNA HAVE FUN WHILE COVERING YOUR BACK!

WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME ALL OF A SUDDEN?
I DON'T KNOW...
I THINK TRYING TO UNDERSTAND IT IS A WASTE OF TIME. I HATE ROMANCE NOVELS, THEY ARE JUST SO DUMB..
BUT... NOW I FEEL THE NEED TO KNOW
I DON'T GET IT EITHER BUT...
PLIC
GOT A JOB TO TAKE CARE OF! SEE YOU!
WELL!
SPLACH SPLACH
IAAAH!
PLIC PLIC PLIC
I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE ANSWER...
ABOUT THE FEELINGS THAT I MYSELF DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT

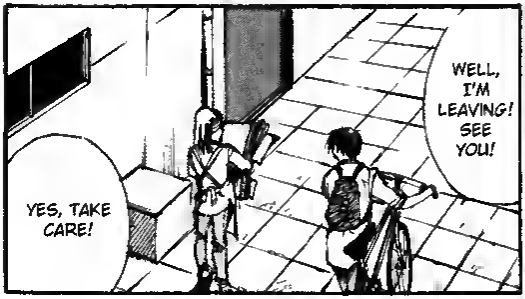


AFTER THAT, I GOT A TERRIBLE COLD, AND I HAD TO STAY IN BED FOR 3 DAYS



OUTSIDE, THE CHERRY TREES HAVE ALREADY STARTED LOSING THEIR LEAVES

AND WHEN THE RAIN STOPPED, EVERYTHING WENT BACK TO NORMAL
HI!
MY DAILY LIFE IS STILL THE SAME, NOTHING SPECIAL
HEY, IT'S GREAT OUT-SIDE!
LET'S GO FOR A WALK!
I ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT I'M AT WORK!
HEY, YOU DON'T WANT US TO GO TOGETHER?


WELL, I'M LEAVING! SEE YOU!
YES, TAKE CARE!

YET, ONE THING HAS CHANGED...

I SPENT THE NIGHT WATCHING MOVIES AT TAKABANORABA THEATRE..
OH! DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS? IT'S 5 IN THE MORNING!

CARE TO GIVE ME A LIFT?

PAL?
YOU CAN TAKE ME UNTIL HALFWAY, HEH...

PAL!?
WHAT KIND OF MOVIES DID YOU WATCH?
THE MOVIES WERE "CRAP"...
BY SAM RAIMI, TERRY GILLIAM, DAVID CRONENBERG... AND PAUL VERHOEVEN...

SING "YESTERDAY" FOR ME

VOL. 1 / FIN